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The centre in turmoil: Voters' views on social democrats, page 2

Mr Reagan to seek £19,000m cuts in public spending

President Reagan is to demand the most drastic cuts in public spending made by any United States administration in recent years. Total reductions for the 1982 fiscal year are likely to amount to more than £19,000m and will affect every government department except defence. Mr Reagan also wants to change the basic role of government in many areas of public expenditure.

Role of government may change

From Frank Vogl
Washington, Feb 15

The most drastic cuts in public spending offered by any United States administration in recent years will be proposed by President Reagan on Wednesday night when he addresses a joint session of Congress. The cuts spare no government department or agency except defence.

The President is not only reducing public spending to help the fight against inflation, but is also outlining dramatically different approaches to government and to the role of government in America.

Many of the planned cuts are outlined in detail in a thick briefing book prepared for the President by the Office of Management and Budget and a copy of this has been obtained by *The Times*.

The cuts are presented alongside President Carter's budget proposals, with full explanations given for the arguments for the cuts and with a brief analysis given in each case of the likely political problems of winning congressional approval for the cuts.

The briefing book is one of the documents that President Reagan has used in making his final decisions and it covers more than $26,000m (£11,000m) in spending reductions. Total spending cuts for the 1982 fiscal year, which starts on October 1, are likely to amount to over $45,000m (£19,000m).

The Budget Office repeatedly argued in its briefing book that *waste can be cut out of welfare* programmes and that cuts here will make for better management. It also argued that it is only equitable that cuts should be made everywhere.

Across-the-board cuts are proposed, for example, in child nutrition programmes. One proposal is to "eliminate subsidies for snacks served in child care and summer meal programmes" to save $68m a year. Another proposal is to "reduce the base meal subsidy from an estimated 19.2 cents per meal to nine cents in fiscal year 1982 and freeze it. This saves about $440m in (fiscal year) 1982, and $550m in 1983 and more in later years."

Sharp cuts in medical care programmes are to be made to produce savings in the next four years of over $10,000m. The approach is simply to refuse to pay any increases in costs over a set "cap" of 5 per cent. To soften opposition to this, the Budget Office said it would be best to present this as an interim measure pending fundamental reforms".

Huge savings are planned in unemployment assistance programmes. Very few people will be able to obtain benefits for more than 26 weeks so bringing estimated pay-outs on such extended benefits for the coming fiscal year down to $1,406m from $3,568m. Compensation to workers who specifically lost their jobs due to import competition will be bluntly reduced to a spending level of just $350m, from an estimated total of $1,500m.

Many school leavers and teenagers win temporary employment under special public works programmes that the Budget Office now plans to cut by close on 40 per cent to save $3,700m. It accepts that bitter criticism will come from local authorities as the cuts clearly will "diminish services".

Students also face harsh cuts. Social security payments to new students will be ended, while those currently going to some 800,000 students will be reduced and eventually phased out. Government lending to help students pay university bills will be cut.

Cuts of 50 per cent are planned for the national endowments of the arts and the humanities and new long-term funding proposals are made so that spending on each of these is limited to no more than $100m a year.

The Budget Office argued that private charities can do better the funding in these areas. It made the same argument in proposing large cuts in funding for public broadcasting.

The Budget Office warned, however, that heavy lobbying against these cuts will come as cultural institutions "maintain strong ties to business and corporations through honorary appointments on boards of directors".

The new Administration takes the view that soft loans to many public agencies are not necessary and that these agencies can go directly to the market for their cash. As a result the Budget Office proposed cuts running into thousands of millions of dollars for the next four years in funding for farm credit programmes, rural electrification and the Tennessee Valley Authority.

The briefing book also includes dozens of separate public services that the Administration wants to cut. Mass transit, airport construction, railway and road building programmes are all to be victims of the new Administration's axe.

The new Administration's philosophy is illustrated by its approach to subsidies for the Post Office, which are set for very substantial cuts. The Budget Office stated: "The Administration is committed to shifting the costs of services to the users who benefit from the service wherever possible. The reduction in this general subsidy should lead to a more efficient utilization of the mail system.

"In addition, reduced subsidization should encourage the postal service to initiate management changes to reduce costs. The possible reduction of service to five-day delivery is a symbol of the seriousness of the fiscal austerity being imposed by reductions throughout the federal Government."


Mr Reagan working on his proposals at Camp David.

Mr Jenkins hits back after attacks on centre

By Michael Hatfield
Political Reporter

Mr Roy Jenkins, one of the so-called gang of four, yesterday delivered a strong reply to the attacks launched upon the proposed social democratic party by Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Michael Foot at the weekend.

The Prime Minister accused the supporters of the Council for Social Democracy of being "trimmers" and slow-motion socialists. The Labour Party leader was scornful about the potential of a new party, and said it would have little effect on British politics.

Mr Jenkins in reply said they were both disturbed by what was happening and that they believed a new party would "have a major impact on the shape of politics".

Interviewed on BBC Radio's *The World This Weekend* programme, Mr Jenkins said: "They both agree in liking both the sterile framework of 'adversarial' politics in which each side blames the other for all the ills of the country, which becomes an excuse for not having to do too much about them."

He continued: "I note particularly that Mrs Thatcher also seemed to be operating on the basis that her policies had been a great success so far which does not seem to me to have much foundation in fact, if you look at the state of British industry at the present time and the state of the British economy generally."

Mr Jenkins said he felt Mrs Thatcher and Mr Foot were concerned because they saw the approach of a new party as a "challenge to the old politics and they both have a tremendous investment in the old politics.

"They are afraid, and rightly afraid, that many people in this country are fed up with old politics and want to see something which does not go in for this mutual slanging match but can give the country some sort of consistent, sensible policy which can make a real effort in the 80s which is desperately needed."

Questioned about policies and the alliance with the Liberals, Mr Jenkins said some Liberal proposals needed "fleshing out" but on the broad thrust of modern Liberal policies there was a substantial measure of agreement.

"The policy we are going to have, and must fight to have, in this country is in fact going to be a mixture of socialism, if you like, and capitalism. It is going to be a mixture of market forces and the responsibility of the Government and the question at issue is whether you get that mixture right and then pursue it consistently."

One of the main issues was electoral reform, a sensible system of proportional representation, he said.

Mr Jenkins said that whether he got back into the House of Commons depended on the electorate. "I must fight for election but it remains to be seen where and exactly when."

Mrs Thatcher's attack was delivered at the Young Conservatives' conference in Eastbourne where Lord Thorneycroft, the party chairman, yesterday gave warning of a "very rough time politically" and of electoral casualties.

Continued on page 2, col 7


The Scottish fishing boat Glenugie blockading the port at Peterhead, where 170 boats were trapped yesterday as fishermen protested against cheap imports. Report, page 3.

Miners begin strike at threatened colliery

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Industrial action by the miners against National Coal Board colliery closure plans began over the weekend and is expected to accelerate rapidly today when the South Wales pitmen meet.

Miners at the Coegnant pit, near Maesteg, mid-Glamorgan, have gone on strike against board plans to shut their 91-year-old colliery, and under pressure of similar militancy at other mines, area leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers have brought forward their decision-making delegate conference to this morning.

The Welsh miners seem ready to go on strike immediately, without waiting for the outcome of talks due to be held on the future of this industry between union leaders and Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy. The miners' executive is to recommend official national strike action if the Cabinet does not provide large state subsidies and ban coal imports.

In the traditionally militant coalfield of Kent, some 2,800 miners started a ban on overtime at 6 am today, and local officials are refusing to take part in any further discussions on proposals to close Snowdown, near Deal, one of the area's three pits.

As in other hard-line areas, there was pressure in Kent for an immediate strike, but left-wing tactics appear to be aimed at holding back the spontaneous reaction of the men in order to meet the largest possible majority for a national strike when the union's executive meets in emergency session on Thursday.

Failing satisfactory guarantees on coal imports and operating subsidies of the kind paid to other EEC producers, the executive is committed to seeking authority in a secret ballot for the industry's first all-out stoppage since the 1974 strike that helped bring about the downfall of the last Tory Government.

The board is going ahead with its series of coalfield conferences telling the men what future they have. Last Friday, the board announced the closure of 10 pits with a loss of 5,600 jobs in South Wales, Kent and Durham.

Today, it is the turn of union leaders in Lancashire, Derbyshire, Cumberland, North Wales, Staffordshire, Warwickshire and Leicestershire. Some of those coalfields expect to escape the job cuts, but a number of pits fit the Board's category of economically non-viable or beset by geological problems.

Reaction against the closure programme is building up even in normally moderate coalfields. Union area officials in Durham, where four pits are to close, have said they will support a strike if the board attempts to push through the shut down of Bearpark, Sacriston, Boldon and Houghton collieries, with a loss of 1,952 jobs.

But the Government is not expected to give the miners what they want. Instead Whitehall officials are working on a scheme for improved cash incentives for men to leave the industry altogether or shift their place of work to "long-life" mines. Alternative work is available for many of the men due to be displaced by the closure of between 20 and 50 pits at a cost of up to 30,000 jobs, but thousands would be made compulsorily redundant.

Bulawayo deadlock as Zipra men keep guns

From Stephen Taylor
Salisbury, Feb 15

Attempts to transport former Zipra and Zanla Zimbabwean guerrillas from Bulawayo's strife-torn township of Entumbane were held up today after *drivers refused to move the* men until they had been disarmed.

At least some of the Zipra men, followers of Mr Joshua Nkomo, have agreed to the move although others remain outside their camp. It is understood that those who have agreed to go have said that they will give up their weapons when they reach a temporary camp about 20 miles from Bulawayo, *but not before*.

Former Zanla guerrillas in Entumbane, who came under fire from Zipra positions when fighting broke out in the township on Wednesday night, are reported to have given up their weapons and been moved to a camp 20 miles on the other side of the city.

The township remained quiet over the weekend although police stations in two neighbouring townships came under fire from small arms yesterday afternoon. Three men were killed in retaliatory fire.

The final death toll from six days of clashes last week involving integrated national Army battalions and former guerrillas is expected to be high. [The national radio said today that there had been more than 300 deaths and at least 400 injured, UPI reports.]

Most of the casualties were in Entumbane and around Connemara barracks. Most of the dissidents at Connemara finally laid down their weapons yesterday after a show of strength by the air force and armoured vehicles.

The main issue still hanging over Entumbane is whether the Zipra men can be persuaded to give up their weapons before they are moved, as has been ordered.

Mr Nkomo, leader of the Patriotic Front Party who is nominally in charge of Zipra, was quoted in today's *Sunday Mail* as saying in response to a question whether the Zipra men had been asked to surrender their arms: "You ask them. I won't".

Blow to Mr Nkomo: Apart from the dead and the wounded, the principal casualty from last week's factional violence appears to be the political reputation of Mr Nkomo (Nicholas Ashford writes from Salisbury).

With only 20 out of the 100 parliamentary seats under his control, Mr Nkomo's main source of power has been the existence of what was believed to be a well-disciplined, well-armed guerrilla force. However, the events of the last few days have not only shown that Zipra was less formidable a force than was generally supposed but also that elements within it were in rebellion against their leaders.

There were growing indications that many of the Zipra rebels were not only opposed to Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, and his Zanla supporters, but that an increasing number of them rejected Mr Nkomo's leadership as well.

An incident which illuminates Mr Nkomo's failing control over elements of his Zipra Army took place yesterday when a journalist went to interview him at his Bulawayo home. As the journalist entered the room where Mr Nkomo was working, the Patriotic Front leader was heard to yell down the telephone: "Nobody has control over these men."

Leading article, page 13

Spaniards riot after cell death

From Richard Wigg
Madrid, Feb 15

Disturbances continued today in the Basque country with buses being burned in the streets of Bilbao 48 hours after the news of the death following nine days of interrogations in Madrid police cells of Señor José Ignacio Arregui, aged 30, an ETA guerrilla suspect.

A general strike in protest over the persistence of the same brutal methods by some Spanish policemen as marked the Franco era has been called in the Basque country tomorrow by all the regional political parties. More demonstrations are feared when the funeral takes place tomorrow in a small Guipúzcoan country town.

The green, red and white Basque flag flew at half mast from the town hall there today; a clear indication of how Basque sentiment, outraged by the killing of a Basque nuclear engineer only a week ago by ETA-militar terrorists, has now swung back again against the authorities.

Señor Tomas Agrela, the police commissioner in charge of the Madrid region information squad which specialized in combating ETA terrorism, and Señor Pérez Pachón, chief of medical services of the directorate general of the Spanish police, were suspended last night from their posts and the five police inspectors who conducted the interrogations have been notified that their conduct will be investigated by a magistrate.

Until now the five interrogators have not been arrested. They conducted the interrogations in cells of the security police headquarters on one side of Madrid's Puerta del Sol, the equivalent of Piccadilly Circus. The prosecutor general's office said the post-mortem examination revealed injuries to Señor Arregui's lungs, including a *pulmonary* oedema, burns

Continued on page 4, col 3

Mr Prior jeered by young Tories

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, yesterday faced a barrage of barracking and shouts of "resign" over the closed shop issue when he spoke to young Conservatives at Eastbourne.

Mr Prior was interrupted as he discussed young people who lost their jobs by a shout of: "Like Joanna Harris".

She is the poultry inspector dismissed last week by Sandwell District Council, in the West Midlands, for refusing to join a union.

Mr Prior replied to the interruption: "It is a scandal that people should lose their jobs as a result of an employer, particularly a local authority, taking the action they are taking".

He went on, to loud barracking: "There is no way and there never has been a way at the end of the day in which you can force an employer to take back or to employ someone they do not wish to employ.

"All you can do in these circumstances is first, to see that the person who loses their job is properly compensated, and secondly to see that the employer who takes this sort of action under the law as it is now, also loses through damages and compensation.

"What you all have to understand is that there are some things you can do in industrial relations by law and there are some things you cannot do.

"However strongly one might feel, it is not the job of a Conservative Government or the Conservative Party to try to put through legislation that it cannot enforce. Nothing will bring *Parliament into greater disrepute* than to pass laws that it knows in advance it cannot enforce."

Mr Prior faced calls of "resign" as he went on: "I am not going to be party to that sort of operation in the cynical belief that we are doing our duty when we know perfectly well we cannot".

Mr Prior recalled the 1971 Industrial Relations Act of the Heath Government and said: "The law was not capable of being enforced then any more than it is now".

He also attacked newspapers, singling out *The Daily Telegraph*, for advising him to take a stronger stand on the closed shop issue.

"How many people working on the printing side in Fleet Street are not members of a union. If newspapers practise a little of what they preach to *me, I will listen a little* bit more carefully."

Pickets ready as anger in South Wales boils over

From Tim Jones
Cardiff

Growing pressure for an indefinite strike over the planned pit closures has forced miners' leaders in South Wales to bring forward by 48 hours to today a special delegate conference.

A strike by 250 men at the threatened Coegnant colliery, mid-Glamorgan, began on Saturday, less than 24 hours after the announcement that five pits in the area were doomed. The men plan to picket the other pits in the coalfield, effectively halting them before the union's national executive meets in London on Thursday.

Mr Emlyn Williams, president of the South Wales miners, claimed that the closures were the beginning of the annihilation of the coalfield.

Mr Idris Jones, secretary of the Ty Mawr colliery, which is also to be closed, said yesterday: "The meeting has been brought forward because the men are so angry. There seems no doubt that the delegates will be unanimous in their call for strike action."

The South Wales coalfield, with its old, geologically faulted pits, is a spectacular money loser, and next year its deficit is expected to exceed £100m. The closure of the five pits would save £20m and lead to 2,800 job losses. However, almost two thirds of those made redundant would be offered other jobs as the area has not been recruiting for more than a year.

Kent miners ready to defend pit, page 2

Labour demand for end to rating system

The replacement of the rating system by corporation tax for industry and commerce and by local income tax for other ratepayers was urged by Mr Gerald Kaufman, Opposition spokesman on the environment. He told a Labour Party conference in Blackpool that it was an irrational and highly resented form of taxation Page 2

Australia rejects Pol Pot regime

The Australian Government has withdrawn its recognition of the deposed Pol Pot regime in Kampuchea after steady public pressure. Coupled with hostility towards the regime from other parts of the world, Australia's action could be the "last straw" for most of the Pol Pot leaders, according to Western diplomats Page 6

Moderate to fight for AUEW post

The Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' right-wing faction selected Mr Gavin Laird, a moderate, as its candidate *to succeed Sir John Boyd as general secretary*. He faces two other contenders Page 2

Fares freeze planned

Labour authorities in London and six other main city areas in England are planning a policy of cutting or freezing public transport fares Page 4

Open government

Whitehall is studying the possibility of extending the Thatcher Administration's *open government policy. If approved*, ministries will have to produce details for inquirers of papers that become available under the directive on openness Page 3

Arson most likely cause of club fire

Arson has emerged as the most likely cause of the Dublin club fire in which 48 young people died. Allegations have *been made* that fire prevention in the republic has been neglected, and the inquiry into the disaster will be headed by a judge Page 3

Lonrho may limit bid

Lonrho, which is bidding £158m for House of Fraser, may invoke a rarely used part of the Takeover Code giving Fraser shareholders only 21 days to accept the 150p a share bid Page 15

End of rating system sought by shadow environment minister

From Christopher Warman
Blackpool

Mr Gerald Kaufman, opposition spokesman on the environment, yesterday called for the rating system to be ended and replaced by corporation tax for industry and commerce and local income tax for other ratepayers.

He told the Labour Party's local government conference in Blackpool that the rating system made no sense and was an irrational, ineffective and highly resented form of taxation.

Corporation tax would satisfy the growing demand for industry and commerce to have a vote in local government. For the domestic ratepayer, direct local income tax was the most equitable solution, there would be a much smaller grant from the government and local government could be given far greater freedom.

But with freedom for control, local government must have the freedom to be responsible for its spending and to justify it to residents. Local authorities could not expect central government to bail them out of difficulties.

Mr Kaufman attacked Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, saying that the block-grant legislation should be repealed by the next Labour government.

The Government was guilty of deliberate, malicious and malevolent harassment of local authorities as they carried out their duties.

"The freedom of local government is being sapped by the cat and mouse tactics being employed against local councils by Michael Heseltine. The tactics would not be out of place in the Soviet Union. Mr Heseltine claims that local government is free to conduct its activities in any way it wishes within the law.

"The trouble is that if local councils pursue those activities in the way they think best, they will be liable to discover later in the year that they have been committing offences that did not exist at the time of their actions, offences which have been invented after the actions took place."

That had already happened in recent months when eight councils made spending decisions that were completely legal but to which penalties were applied retrospectively. Mr Heseltine was at it again with the prospect of penalties under the block-grant system.

MPs seek safeguards for forestry land

By Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

Senior Conservative backbench MPs want to curb proposed government powers to to sell land owned by the Forestry Commission. They believe that the powers recommended for ministers in the Forestry Bill are too wide.

The Bill was presented to the Commons in December by Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, with the support of four other ministers.

The disputed clause states that "the minister may dispose for any purpose of land acquired by him under this section". Some Conservative MPs share the fear of private foresters that that will allow ministers to sell land owned by the commission without using the money for investment in forestry.

The leading critics of the clause include Mr Peter Mills, MP for Devon, West, chairman of the Conservative food and agriculture committee in the Commons. Mr Mills is a former junior minister in Mr Walker's ministry. His reservations are shared by Mr Patrick Cormack, MP for Staffordshire, South-west, and chairman of the forestry sub-committee of Mr Mills's committee.

"I give the Bill a guarded welcome", Mr Mills said. He feared that the inclusion of the words "for any purpose" would enable ministers to sell land to the detriment of the national forestry industry just to raise money.

"I can almost feel the Treasury pressure on the Forestry Commission", he added. "If there are small attractive forests that are just about viable we want that to continued."

Ministers are understood to oppose two of the main recommendations about forestry from the House of Lords Select Committee on Science and Technology.

They are that the commission should have a chief scientist and that ministers should review forestry grants "to bring them more closely into line with the objectives of best integrated land use".

A committee of civil servants has proposed that the post of chief scientist at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food should be abolished. A long review of farming grants has been completed by the Government.

The centre in turmoil 1: Attitude of voters in marginal constituencies to formation of a new political party

No cheers for social democracy in industry's disillusioned birthplace

By John Witherow

There used to be a sign by the road leading into the new town of Telford, Shropshire, which read in big, bold letters: "Telford—land of opportunity". One night a couple of years ago a disgruntled passer-by is said to have torn it down, leaving it lying unceremoniously by the roadside.

That simple act of defiance sums up the disillusionment afflicting the town on which so many people based their dreams; the town with the highest unemployment rate in the West Midlands.

The sign now reads, more modestly: "Telford—birthplace of industry". That has some truth, for in Coalbrookdale, one of the villages that make up the amorphous mass of modern Telford, iron was first smelted with coal.

But can Telford still be called the birthplace of industry? It is described in glossy advertisements as the "growth point of the West Midlands", but its big companies are laying off men faster than specialized industries can be attracted to the carefully landscaped Shropshire hills.

With its high unemployment, new town flavour and a marginal parliamentary seat, Telford, which forms the heart of The Wrekin constituency, should be an ideal recruiting ground for the social democrats.

But a straw poll last week showed that the people of Telford were less interested in a centre party than the residents of two Birmingham constituencies.

The Wrekin constituency swung to Mr Warren Hawksley, the Conservative candidate, by a margin of 965 votes in the last general election. For the past 30 years, with only one exception, it has gone to whichever party gained power.

Created in the early 1960s and named after Thomas Telford, the great engineer who was Shropshire's county surveyor, the town has attracted a heterogeneous population of just over 100,000 from Liverpool, Wolverhampton and Birmingham in search of work and green fields.

But very few of those questioned from the town, where unemployment will be 18 per cent by the spring, gave unconditional support for a regrouping of political parties.

Those who expressed a general sympathy with the aspirations of the social democrats also displayed an understandable ignorance about the aims and policies of a party that has yet to be formed.

Tentative support, however, came from some surprising quarters. Mr John Tranter, aged 58, a General and Municipal Workers Union shop steward at the GKN-Sankey plant, said he might vote for the grouping.

"I do not agree with what the Labour Party has been up to. It has been letting the Tories have their own way. People here are very frightened of losing their jobs and disillusioned with the present system", he said.

For every potential Liberal/social democrat alliance voter, there were several others unconditionally opposed to it. Mr John Hislop, aged 50, and Mr Samuel Taylor, aged 41, both production workers at GKN-Sankey which is laying off nearly 1,000 workers, voted Labour last time and do not intend to change.

"Labour are following the right policies", Mr Hislop said. "I think they are the party for the working man." A similar determination to stand by Labour came from Mrs Brenda Drew and her two daughters.

Few Conservatives showed signs of wavering. Mr John Wilding, aged 31, an unemployed factory inspector, voted Tory in 1979 and believes Mrs Thatcher "shows the courage of her convictions". Mr Jack Johnston, aged 37, a displaced Scottish nationalist, had no time for the social democrats, or any politician for that matter: "They say something, mean another and do something else".

Most of those questioned in Telford and in two of the marginal Birmingham constituencies, Northfield and Perry Barr, listed their greatest concerns as the threat of unemployment for themselves and their children, inflation and housing. Only a few expressed fears about the threat of nuclear war, immigration and other issues.

Northfield, a prosperous suburb in south Birmingham which includes British Leyland's Longbridge plant, was a Labour stronghold from 1950. But in 1979 it moved dramatically to the Conservatives, with the third biggest swing in the country.

Perry Barr, to the north of the city, was retained by Labour with a majority of 491 votes. That was largely attributed to the local efforts of its MP, Mr Jeffrey Rooker.

Constituents there expressed disgust with the "seesaw" politics of the two-party system and said it was time for a centre grouping. But few people, asked if they would vote for the social democrats, unconditionally said they would.

Most wanted to wait, judge the party's policies and see if it would attract more support. They thought the choice of the party leader would be important but would not influence the way they voted. Of possible candidates for the leadership, Mrs Shirley Williams, Dr David Owen and Mr David Steel were most favoured.

Mr Keith Clarke, aged 27, a building industry worker, said the social democrats might get his support if they "dangled the carrot", did something for the working class and helped young unemployed people. Others thought it was "a nine-day wonder; a protest vote".

Support for a central alliance seemed to come equally from former Conservative and Labour voters. The few Liberals questioned said they would vote for the social democrats only if they allied themselves with the Liberals.

A butcher who voted Liberal in 1979 said he might vote for the social democrats in the unlikely event that they supported enforced conscription for the unemployed and the return of hanging.

The overall impression gaine[d] in Perry Barr, a largely res[i]dential constituency with som[e] small light engineering firm[s] was similar to that of Nort[h]field, with its cautious scep[ti]cism.

Several people expressed co[n]cern that Labour was losi[ng] credibility through its intern[al] wrangling and thought the [so-]called gang of four should fi[ght] for their beliefs within [the] party.

But the survey, random a[nd] limited as it was, failed to [re]flect the enormous support [for] the social democratic party d[is]closed in formal polls recent[ly]. There was nothing like the [un]conditional 39 per cent supp[ort] for a Liberal/social democra[t] alliance disclosed in an Opini[on] Research and Communicati[ons] poll carried out for *The Tim[es]* in January and published February 9.

What did emerge was [a] fairly widespread sympathy [for] the aims of the social dem[o]crats, tempered by a cynical d[is]trust of politicians and [their] parties.

Many people said that f[or] a Liberal/social democra[t] alliance to make headway [in] the West Midlands it wou[ld] have to appear as a credi[ble] party with widespread supp[ort] and sensible policies to com[bat] unemployment.

If the social democrats fo[rm] a party with Liberal supp[ort] they will certainly face a tou[gh] battle in all three constitu[en]cies. The Liberals gained [less] than 2,000 votes in the last el[ec]tion in Perry Barr, 4,538 [in] Northfield and 7,331 in T[he] Wrekin, against winning votes up to 33,000.

They will also face the di[ffi]cult task of getting their c[an]didates known locally. As [Mr] Rooker, in confident mo[od] said: "They will be starti[ng] dead cold and I will pit [my] record against them any d[ay]. I will take on all the soc[ial] democrats around".

Next: Ronald Kershaw in [the] North-east.

No centre party support from Mr Jack Johnston (left) or Mr John Wilding.

Photograph by Bill Warhurst

Moderate to contest AUEW post

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

The right-wing faction in the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers has selected Mr Gavin Laird, a senior executive member, as its candidate to succeed Sir John Boyd as general secretary next year.

Mr Laird, a Scotsman, who will be 48 next month, secured a comfortable overall majority over two other prominent moderates at a meeting of 200 faction members in a trade union club in Derby on Saturday.

He becomes the right's standard bearer in the postal ballot which opens in September for one of the two senior jobs in the union. Mr Terence Duffy secured the presidency last year for seven years after a landslide victory over the left's candidate, Mr Robert Wright.

The contest for the general secretaryship will be three-cornered. The left wing is unlikely to make a formal choice until April but Mr Kenneth Brett, for 13 years one of the union's two assistant general secretaries and a communist, is the front runner.

Mr Gerry Russell, the union's north-west executive member and its representative on the Labour Party national executive committee, will also run. Mr Russell, though politically a moderate, is not a member of the right-wing group and would be a powerful contender if he managed to get to the second ballot.

Mr Laird is thought to have been the preferred choice of Sir John, whose career in some ways he has closely mirrored and whose influence as the elder statesman of the union's right-wing remains strong.

Mr Laird is a part-time member of the British National Oil Corporation Board and was formerly a Highlands and Islands Development Board member. He first made a name in the union as convener at the Singer plant in Clydebank from 1964 to 1971.

He rose to national prominence when he succeeded Sir John as Scottish executive member after a bitterly fought contest with Mr James Reid, the left wing's candidate.

Traditionally, the job of general secretary has been secondary in the AEUW to that of president but under Lord Scanlon and Mr Duffy, Sir John has widened its influence

New Liberal alliance talks possible

From Our Correspondent
Liverpool

A second Liberal association in Liverpool is prepared to give cautious consideration to the prospect of an alliance with the Council for Social Democracy.

Liverpool Toxteth division Liberals decided yesterday that if Mr Richard Crawshaw, Labour MP for the division, resigns from the Labour Party they would be prepared to discuss the matter with him. But they also decided to proceed later with the selection of a Liberal candidate to fight the constituency at the next general election on the grounds that it is too soon to discuss any formal alliance.

Liberals in the neighbouring Edge Hill division have agreed to ballot their 2,000 members on changing their name to the Liberal and Social Democratic Association. But the ballot would not be held until the "gang of four" leave the Labour party.

MP's accusation: Paid political agitators have infiltrated constituencies in the North-east in an extremist takeover which is ruining the Labour Party, Mr Mike Thomas MP for Newcastle upon Tyne, East, writes in *The Journal*, the Newcastle newspaper today.

Labour rebels under attack on two fronts

Continued from page 1

The Prime Minister, in her speech on Saturday, said the self-styled social democrats were the direct descendents of the last Labour Government.

She said they were descendents "of the very Labour Party whose attachment to nationalization, state control, a great extension of trade union power, the destruction of grammar schools and blanket subsidies did so much to undermine Britain's enterprise and Britain's prosperity.

"The recipe offered by the new Limehouse left who, when in power, always surrendered to extremist pressure, is the same old mixture which failed before. It is not so immediate a poison as the Benn formula, but deadly none the less."

In a clear reference to Mrs Shirley Williams, Mrs Thatcher said: "Slow motion socialism is socialism all the same and, however genteel the guise, it would damage Britain dangerously today, just as it has in the past, just as it did when one of their number stood on the Grunwick picket line".

Mr Foot told the Labour local government conference at Blackpool on Saturday that the new party would have little effect on British politics except to give "momentary assi[st]ance" to the Tories.

"It is a very strange mom[ent] for anybody to talk about le[av]ing the party when up and do[wn] the country there are hundre[ds] and thousands of people joini[ng] it", he said.

A group of senior Lab[our] councillors issued a statem[ent] yesterday at the confere[nce] saying that "to leave the pa[rty] if one loses the argument [is] defeatist as well as divisive".

They also rejected any pr[o]posals to bind candidates fo[r] council elections by so-calle[d] "loyalty oaths", a propos[al] originally put forward by [Mr] Wedgwood Benn at the part[y] national executive committ[ee] but substantially trimm[ed] there.

Among those who signed t[he] statement were Mr Jack Sma[rt] chairman of the Association [of] Metropolitan Authorities, [Mr] Roy Shaw, Leader of Camd[en] council, Mr Roy Thwait[es] leader of South Yorksh[ire] council, Mr Clive Wilkins[on] leader of Birmingham C[ity] Council, Mr John Gunn[ell] Labour leader on the W[est] Yorkshire council, and [Mr] Ashley Bramall, leader of [the] Inner London Educat[ion] Authority.

Leading article, letters, page

South bank sale referred to district auditor

By Our Planning Reporter

A decision by the Greater London Council to sell sites on the south bank of the Thames to a private developer has been referred to the district auditor by leaders of the council's Labour group.

The sites, totalling some 10 acres, are part of the so-called Coin Street area, which a property company, Greycoat Commercial Estates, has applied to redevelop. Earlier this month Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, called in the application for a public inquiry.

The Conservative majority on the council supports the Greycoat scheme, and last week the planning and communications committee voted to sell the land.

Mr Andrew McIntosh, leader of the Labour group, said yesterday that he and his colleagues had asked the district auditor to advise on the propriety of the committee's actions.

"We feel that the decision to sell these sites at breakneck speed, despite the professional advice of the council's officers, is a desperate and deathwish move", he said.

Snowdown Colliery men are in fighting mood

From Richard Ford
Aylesham, Kent

A huge cheer echoed around the Snowdown Colliery Welfare Club yesterday as the news was shouted that men at the two other pits in Kent were backing workers in any action they took to save their jobs at the doomed colliery.

The announcement came after a 90-minute meeting at the club where men from the 60-year-old pit had discussed what action they are to take after the announcement by the National Coal Board that Snowdown is to close within months. The support from their fellow workers was exactly what they wanted to hear.

After the meeting, attended by more than 500 men, they were united in their determination to fight the closure threat which many see as the beginning of the final run-down of the Kent coal field, which has only three pits.

The men also believe that Aylesham, the model village built to house miners and their families, will become a ghost town if the pit closes, offering them few opportunities for other employment.

Under the coal board plan, the colliery will be closed, with about half the 960 workers finding jobs in neighbouring pits. But 450 men will have to leave the industry.

However, many men who work at the pit, set among the rolling countryside and orchards of Kent, are prepared to oppose what one described as the "second rape of the coal industry".

Mr Charlie Bailey, aged 52, a power loader who has worked in the industry for 38 years, said: "I support an all-out strike to stop the closure of this pit and others. The country must realize that it is madness to be importing coal at the same time as we are running our own industry down. The British coal industry should be given exactly the same subsidies as others.

"In 1990 the country will thank us for the stand we are taking. It is for the future generations as well as ourselves that we are fighting because once all the gas and oil has gone, coal will still be there and we must keep an industry going so that it is there as an energy source."

He would not be prepared to take redundancy, however generous. "With my health, I would be on the dole for the rest of my life. I couldn't get another job, nothing. What future is that for me?"

The clear warning to the coal board and Mrs Margaret Thatcher from many of the men at Snowdown is that however generous the payment to them to leave the industry, they are more interested in jobs. And they are prepared, unlike other groups of workers, to fight for them.

Tradition, loyalty and, underlying much of what they say, a dislike of the Conservatife Party, has put the men of Snowdown into fighting mood. They see themselves as the last line in attempts to save jobs and are prepared for a national miners' strike in their efforts to do so.

However, it is not only a narrow attitude. The men at Snowdown frankly admit that people in other areas of the country, most notably South Wales, one in a much more difficult position. Mr Rab Mossie, aged 39, with five children, said: "It might be difficult to get another job around here but it is much worse in Wales. We are not just fighting for ourselves but for others too.

"This closure of many industries, which is now hitting mining, is like a cancer that has spread on and on. If we lose here I just hope that we will have managed to save jobs somewhere else. It will mean hardship but we are ready."

In Aylesham people are aware that if the pit closes many will spend the rest of their lives out of work. The miners are furious that despite their efforts to increase productivity, the coal board is prepared to close the pit.

The village has begun to turn in on itself in preparation for what the miners believe is an inevitable battle ahead. "We are a closed community and most people either have members of their family in the mine or know of them. The feeling of solidarity is enormous and I am sure we will fight all the way", added Mr David Needham, aged 35, a development worker who came into the coal mining industry in 1977 because he wanted to pursue a career.

Already men are thinking of cancelling summer holidays and worrying about paying their mortgages but their message to the miners' national executive is that whatever the hardship and whatever the cost, they are prepared to do battle in a bid to save the colliery.

Five factors combine to make English world language, professor says

By Philip Howard
Literary Editor

At a meeting of Convocation of London University on Saturday, Professor Randolph Quirk, the Quain Professor of English Language and Literature at University College, argued with his customary wit and force that English is becoming a world language.

Our English encompasses *Paradise Lost* and *Moby Dick*; Shakespeare's plays and Jane Austen's novels; James Thurber's wit and John Lennon's songs. Professor Quirk observed that many languages have a few such triumphs: none but English has such outstanding ones. They have all contributed to making English a "great" language. If there were no other reason, they would be enough to make people in other countries want to learn it.

But such varied works did not (and could not, he argued) make English a world language. For that, there had to be other, less uplifting, factors.

For example, one needs populations of native speakers. But this of itself is not enough: compare Chinese and Hindi.

One needs a wide geographical spread of native speakers. But this of itself is not enough: compare Spanish.

One needs native speakers of inventive genius, and industrial and commercial enterprise. But this of itself is not enough: compare Japanese and German.

One needs a sustained period of political and economic leadership.

Professor Quirk argued that as AD2000 approaches, English is closest to being the world language, because it had a happy combination of high scores for all five of his factors

He produced some objective measures to show that English is leading in international use. It is the international language of air and sea travel. It is the language most used at the United Nations and in scientific journals.

Statistics on many of the most obvious superlatives are not easy to come by, but for some they have been solidly established. Professor Quirk produced maps to compare English with six other languages

The maps demonstrated the prevalence of English in daily newspapers, higher education, domestic broadcasting, external broadcasting and national constitutions specifying the official languages.

Protest group defends homes occupation

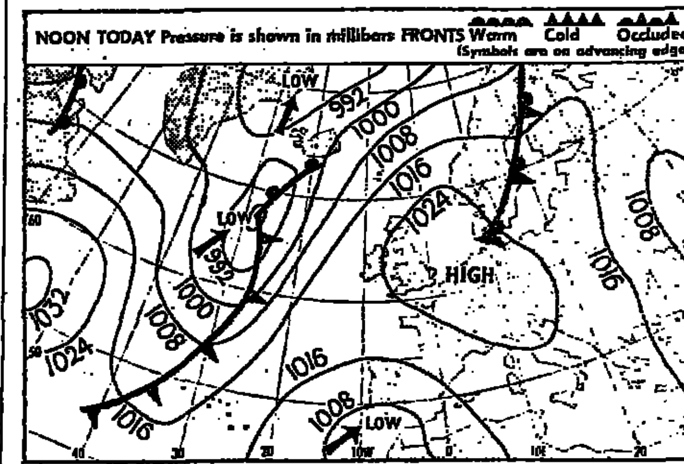
An action group has occupied 30 houses in Hackney, east London, which it says were built for the elderly but were being let by the Greater London Council to people outside the borough.

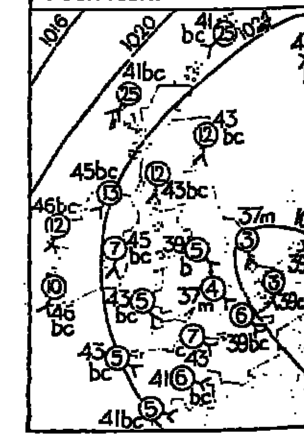
The Sherry's Wharf Action Group, which has changed the locks on the homes, said last night: "Hackney has the highest proportion of elderly people in London and there is insufficient accommodation.

"Now, the GLC is letting them out as one-bedroom flats to people with a gross income of £150 a week and charging £32 weekly rental."

When the occupation started a fortnight ago, the GLC disconnected electricity and gas supplies.

Weather forecast and recordings





Today

Sun rises: 7.13 am Sun sets: 5.17 pm
Moon sets: 5.48 am Moon rises: 2.38 pm
Full moon: February 18.
Lighting up: 5.47 pm to 6.41 am.
High water: London Bridge noon, 6.5m. Avonmouth 5.11 am, 11.5m; 5.48 pm, 12m. Dover 9.12 am, 5.9m; 9.45 pm, 6m. Hull 4.19 am, 6.6m; 4.47 pm, 6.8m. Liverpool 9.26 am, 8.4m; 9.53 pm, 8.5m.
1 ft=0.3048m 1m=3.2808 ft

There is a ridge of high pressure over Britain.

Forecast for 6 am to midnight.

London, SE, Central S, E England, East Anglia, Midlands: dry, overnight freezing fog patches slowly thinning to give hazy sunshine; wind variable, mostly S, light; max temp 4 to 6°C (39 to 43°F). Frost early and late.

Channel Islands: dry, sunny periods; wind variable, light; max temp 5°C (41°F).

SW, NW, Central N England, Wales: dry, variable cloud, perhaps a few fog patches at first; wind variable, light becoming S, moderate; max temp 4 to 7°C (39 to 45°F). Frost in places early and late.

Lake District, Isle of Man, SW, NE Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, Orkney, Shetland, N Ireland: perhaps a few light showers at first, sunny intervals; wind W, light, increasing SW moderate; max temp 5 to 7°C (41 to 45°F). Frost in places early and late.

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: dry, sunny intervals, perhaps a few fog patches in the morning; wind variable, light becoming SW and increasing slightly; max temp 5 to 7°C (41 to 45°F). Frost in places early and late.

NW Scotland, Argyll: a few light showers, sunny intervals; wind W, light becoming SW and increasing. Perhaps strong later; max temp 6°C (43°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Wednesday: mostly dry with sunny periods, temps below normal with widespread frost at night.

Sea passages: S North Sea: wind variable, light: sea smooth. Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): wind variable, light becoming SE light to moderate; sea slight.

St George's Channel: wind SW, backing SE, light to moderate; sea slight.

Saturday

London: Temp: maximum 6 [am] to 6 pm, 6°C (43°F); minim[um] 6 pm to 6 am, −1°C (30[°F]). Humidity, 6 pm, 60 per c[ent]. Rain, 24hr to 6 pm, nil. [Sun,] 24 hr to 6 pm, 8.2 hr. Bar, m[ean] sea level, 6 pm, 1,024.5 millib[ars], rising.

Yesterday

London: Temp: maximum 6 [am] to 6 pm, 7°C (45°F); minim[um] 6 pm to 6 am, 0°C (32°F). Humid[ity], 6 pm, 64 per cent. R[ain], 24 hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun, 24 [hr] to 6 pm, 7.6hr. Bar, mean [sea] level, 6 pm 1,023.7 millib[ars], rising.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	f	18	64	Cologne	c	3	28	Locarno	c	4	39	Nice	s	11	52
Algiers	s	19	66	Copenhgn	f	2	36	London	s	4	39	Oslo	f	−3	27
Amsterdm	s	3	37	Florence	s	5	41	Luxembrg	s	1	34	Paris	s	4	39
Athens	f	6	43	Funchal	f	16	61	Madrid	c	6	43	Rome	s	8	46
Barcelona	f	12	54	Geneva	s	0	32	Majorca	s	12	54	Stockholm	c	−2	28
Beirut	s	23	73	Gibraltar	r	14	57	Malaga	c	14	57	Toronto	c	1	34
Belfast	c	7	45	Guernsey	f	4	39	Malta	s	11	52	Vancouver	c	8	46
Berlin	sn	−2	28	Helsinki	s	−8	18	Miami	c	25	77	Tel Aviv	c	21	70
Bermuda	f	18	64	Innsbruck	s	−3	27	Montreal	c	−3	27	Venice	s	3	37
Biarritz	s	12	54	Istanbul	sn	0	32	Moscow	sn	−4	25	Vienna	f	1	34
Brussels	c	0	32	Jersey	s	5	41	Munich	s	−1	30	Warsaw	sn	−1	30
Budapest	c	0	32	L. Palmas	c	18	64	Naples	s	6	43	Zurich	s	−1	30
Chicago	f	6	43	Lisbon	s	11	52	New York	f	2	36				

Overseas selling prices
Australia $2; Austria Sch 20; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 35; Canada ... Cyprus 350 mils; Denmark ... Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland ... France Frs 4.50; Germany Dm 3; Greece Dr 50; Holland Gl 2.30; ... Iraq ID 0.500; Irish Rep ... Italy L 1100; Jordan LD 0 ... Kuwait KD 0.450; Lebanon LL ... Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc ... Malta 20c; Morocco Dir 5.00; Norway Kr 6.00; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 10; Portugal Esc 50; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR ... Singapore $4.50; Spain Pes 100; Sweden Skr 7.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; ... Lf 5.50; Tunisia Din .450; US ... Canada $1.50; UAE Dir ... Yugoslavia Din 40.

Whitehall studying extension of Thatcher Administration's policy towards open government

By Peter Hennessy

The Civil Service Department is working on the possibility of extending the Thatcher Administration's open government policy. If the plan is approved, ministries would be obliged to produce to public inquirers details of papers that had become available under the Croham directive, Whitehall's standing instruction on openness.

When promulgated in 1977, the directive required departments to keep records of material released but the obligation was removed as an economy measure by Mrs Margaret Thatcher shortly after taking office. Since May, 1979, it has been impossible to monitor the effectiveness of the Conservative Cabinet's *open government* commitment. Nor can members of the public discover what they are able to see if only they asked.

In a letter to Mr Christopher Price, Labour MP for Lewisham, West, and chairman of the Commons Select Committee on Education, Science and the Arts, who has pressed the Government to resume the production of lists, Mr Barney Hayhoe, Minister of State at *the Civil Service Department*, points out that the firm of Chadwyck-Healey will be publishing from April a *Catalogue of British Official Publications not published by Her Majesty's Stationery Office.*

He goes on: "Where there is no list in a form suitable for issuing to enquirers as it stands, departments are considering whether it will be possible to make the information available in one form or another".

In the aftermath of the killing of Mr Frank Hooley's Freedom of Information Bill by the Government's "payroll vote", Mr Price intends to sustain the campaign for greater openness by pressing Mr Hayhoe, after a suitable interval, to tell the Commons what he has done to follow up his letter.

Mr Hayhoe will also face questions from MPs about his remarks on the subject of government information and individual privacy delivered in the course of the debate on the Hooley Bill.

He said: "I have a great deal of sympathy with those who argue that the individual should have the right to see personal information [in an official file] and correct it if it is wrong. The growing use of computer records, among other systems of recording information, has increased public concern."

Mr Robin Cook, Labour MP for Edinburgh Central, and an opposition spokesman on Treasury affairs, is considering introducing a Bill under the 10-minute rule to test the Government's attitude to privacy. The Bill would permit an individual to see and check his or her files held by government departments, with the exception of those dealing with security or law enforcement.

Apart from the initiatives of Mr Price on the Croham directive and Mr Cook on privacy, the parliamentary end of the freedom of information lobby in Britain now seems to recognize the impossibility of getting a Bill through the House in the lifetime of the Conservative Government, and will shift its emphasis to achieving greater access to information through the medium of the new departmental Commons select committees.

Another tactic that has found favour with the campaigners is the tacking on of disclosure clauses to government Bills passing through Parliament. The model for it is schedule 5 of the Industry Act, 1975, which, thanks to an amendment proposed by Dr Jeremy Bray, Labour MP for Motherwell and Wishaw, during the measure's committee stage, obliges the Treasury to publish some of its economic forecasts and gives the public access to its computer model of the British economy.

Probation officers split over left's role

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

The resignation from the National Association of Probation Officers (NAPO) of a former chairman, Mr Kenneth Howe, and others brings to a head a growing controversy about left-wing influence on its membership.

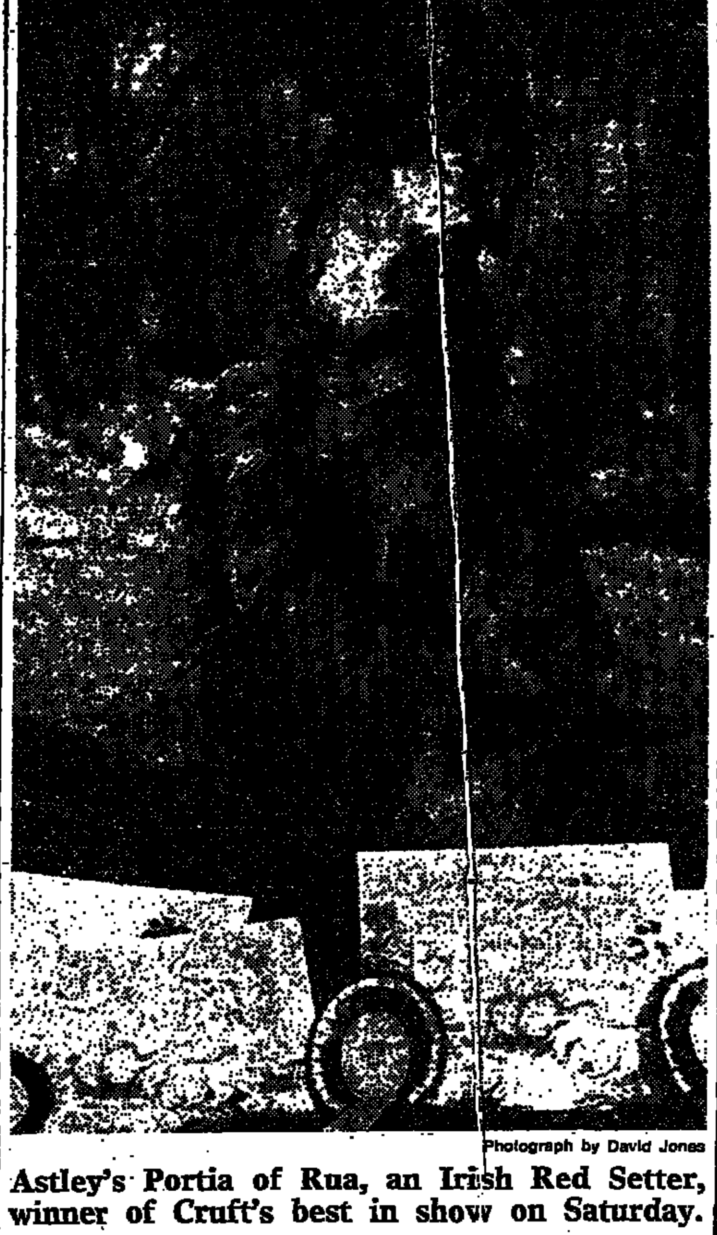
Mr Howe, who is chairman of a new organization, the National Association of Senior Probation Officers, said in his letter of resignation last week that dogmatism within NAPO had made dissent unwelcome.

At the first annual general meeting of the new body at Malvern on Saturday a motion asserting its independence was carried by an overwhelming majority. While some seniors had followed Mr Howe's example, others belonging to the new body prefer to work within NAPO for change. Many believe it has been turned into a political pressure group by activists.

Mr Howe has cited its stance on the Grunwick issue and the support among members for legalizing cannabis as examples of the way "political preferences had taken precedence over professional responsibility".

Senior probation officers in the new association include those who believe a "little bit of discipline" is no bad thing in the criminal justice system. One reason for the split is the increased numbers of young officers recruited to expand the service after training that traditionalists think emphasizes social work and has undermined the old-style virtues of probation duties.

Deputy and assistant chief probation officers have formed *an association to seek their own* pay negotiating rights. The senior officers and assistant chiefs are middle managers of the service. Most NAPO members are main (or basic) grade officers.



Photograph by David Jones

Astley's Portia of Rua, an Irish Red Setter, winner of Cruft's best in show on Saturday.

Arson seen as likeliest cause of Dublin fire

From David Nicholson Lord
Dublin

Arson has emerged as the likeliest cause of the fire at the Stardust club, in the Dublin suburb of Ardane, early on Saturday, in which 48 young people died, although officially the police are keeping an open mind.

After an emergency meeting of the Irish Cabinet yesterday, Mr Charles Haughey, the Prime Minister, announced that the tribunal to look into the disaster would be headed by a High Court judge.

A motion to set up an inquiry, which would be empowered to make wide-ranging recommendations, will be introduced in the Dail on Wednesday. The Government has also told local fire authorities to make an urgent review of procedures, and will have an early meeting with the recently established Fire Prevention Council.

The moves follow criticisms that fire prevention work in the republic continue to be seriously neglected, despite the controversy over the fire at the Central Hotel, Bundoran, in Donegal, last summer when ten people died.

Distraught families demained outside mortuasies in the city yesterday for news of identification. Bodies were badly burnt, but by last night about a third of the 48 had been identified. More than 100 people are in hospital and at least a dozen are seriously ill.

Many sports fixtures were cancelled yesterday as well as the annual conference of the ruling Fianna Fail party, for which more than 6,000 delegates had arrived in Dublin. Tomorrow will be a day of national mourning. Schools and public service staff will be given time off to attend services, which will include one at the parish church of Artane, to be attended by Mr Haughey, Dr Patrick Hillery, the President, and other government ministers.

The Irish Parliament will also be adjourned. Meanwhile, a fund has been started by communty groups in Artane for relatives of the dead.

The interior of the club was a burnt out tangle of metal as the police continued their examination. A special force of 90 detectives has been assigned to interview the 770 young people who were watching the winning couple in a disco dancing competition at 1.30am when the fire was spotted.

Miss Elizabeth Marley, aged 19, the waitress who raised the alarm, said yesterday that she saw two chairs alight in an area of 18 rows of cinema-style seats which was not in use and curtained off by firescreens installed only a few weeks ago.

"I told the barmen and the bouncers and between 12 and 15 of them rushed to the fire and tried to put it out with fire extinguishers. One of them opened a fire prevention screen and the flames just leapt out acros sthe eciling.

Although disc jockeys told people not to panic, within four or five minutes visibility was nil because of thick black smoke of a plastic-based material, metled and dripped on to people below. Then the lights went out.

In the panic teenagers fell and trampled on each other and smashed steel-framed windows to get out. Many apparently made for the main entrance rather than safety exits, and escape attempts were hindered by people coming in from outside searching for friends

Reports that the safety doors were locked, backed yesterday by Dr Noel Browne, a member of the Irish Parliament, have been denied by club staff. Police were last night interviewing a girl who was reported to have seen youths setting fire to the seats with matches minutes before the fire started. Mrs Teresa Marley, the catering manageress, said no one should have been in the curtained off area.

The disaster has led to strong criticisms of fire precautions from the Fire Prevention Council and the Fire Officers' Association.

Among criticisms are that building regulations similar to those operating in Britain and governing factors such as the flammability of materials have remained in draft form since being proposed five years ago. Most fire authorities, according to the association, do not have a fire prevention officer and some are also without chief fire officers at present because of a dispute over their terms of employment.

March cancelled: A Republican H-Block march in Belfast was called off yesterday as a mark of respect for the people who died in the fire (the Press Association reports).

Immigration appeals system criticized

By Lucy Hodges

The immigration appeals *system is criticized for not* doing enough to protect the rights of the individual in a briefing paper published today by the Runnymede Trust.

The paper says there is clearly much wrong with the system of immigration appeals and that it fails to meet the standards of review expected as a matter of course in other areas of law.

Because of that the making of representations to the Home Office by MPs is an important check on administrative discretion "and an essential complement to an appeals system which is quite unsatisfactory", the trust says. It recommends that an independent review of the appeals system be set up.

The Home Office is making its own internal inquiry into the system and the briefing paper is clearly calculated to influence that. The trust is worried that the Government may try to reduce MPs' powers to intervene in immigration cases.

Mr Timothy Raison, minister of state at the Home Office, has said that MPs' involvement in those cases spins them out for months. Last year he said: "What is not reasonable in my view is for someone to claim a further stop on action to remove (an immigrant) just because he dislikes any decision, when he cannot offer solid grounds for challenging it".

The briefing paper says there would be no need for MPs representations if the appeal system were fair and seen to be so. Appeals against decisions in immigration matters go first to an immigration appeals adjudicator and from there to the Immigration Appeals Tribunal. Some cases go to the tribunal direct.

There is a limited and qualified right of appeal in deportation cases which can often only be made from outside the United Kingdom. The chances of having an appeal upheld either by an adjudicator or by the tribunal are not high.

In 1979 the adjudicators upheld 11.5 per cent of appeals they heard while the tribunal allowed 14.8 per cent. Appeals to the tribunal made by the Home Office against adjudicators' decisions are significantly more successful than those made by immigrants.

The paper complains that the burden of proof in immigration appeals is placed on the person appealing. "It is for him or her to convince the appellate authority that the decision appealed *against was wrong.*"

It criticizes the rules of procedure for giving adjudicators too much discretion in the conduct of hearings and it says it is wrong for the "written statement of facts" to be prepared by the Home Office, which is a party to the proceedings.

The Pivot of the System—a briefing paper on Immigration Appeals, (Runnymede Trust, 16-18 Strutton Ground, London SW1P 2HP; £1.50 and 25p postage).

Chancellor poll ends in acrimony

By a Staff Reporter

Polling in the election for Chancellor of London University, in which the candidates are Princess Anne, Mr Jack Jones and Mr Nelson Mandela, closed on a note of acrimony on Saturday. The university convocation censured its standing committee for "unseemly and unbecoming haste" in summoning the meeting to elect the new chancellor.

Princess Anne is still regarded as favourite to win the election the result of which will be declared today or tomorrow. But convocation gave a clear indication by way of a second motion, also carried, that in future there should be a longer period for nominations.

The closing date for the nomination of chancellorship candidates is fixed at 42 days before the meeting at which the results are to be announced. That was scheduled originally for February 3 and Princess Anne would then have been elected automatically had her candidature been unopposed.

The second motion said convocation, desiring to prevent a repetition of the inconvenience consequent upon the over-short interval between the resignation of the last chancellor, the Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, last December and the closing of nominations for her successor, recommended a new standing order that a minimum period of three calendar months should elapse between the announcement of a chancellor's resignation or death and the closing of nominations for candidates.

EXIT votes to publish booklet on euthanasia

Members of EXIT, the Voluntary Euthanasia Society, voted by 306 to eight on Saturday to go ahead with plans for publishing a booklet on methods of mercy killing.

Mr Nicholas Reed, general secretary, said after a meeting in London: "I am delighted that the membership has given the committee this overwhelming majority of support". He intends to go ahead with plans to make the booklet, *A Guide to Self Deliverance*, available to EXIT members in England.

An injunction application on the booklet was taken out by Dr Gordon Scott, a member of EXIT who disagreed with its contents. Mr Reed plans to have the application halted, claiming that there is nothing in English law to prevent publication of the booklet which outlines five methods of relatively quick, "dignified" and painless death.

Mr Reed said: "The booklet has been available for six months in Scotland and no mass outbreak of suicide has taken place there".

Lack of phones in Wales may put off investors

From Tim Jones
Cardiff

A lack of private telephones may deter industrialists from establishing factories in Wales, the Post Office Users' Council for Wales has alleged.

The council is particularly concerned because Wales appears to have been excluded deliberaely from guidelines laid down by Sir William Barlow, the chairman of the Post Office, 18 months ago. In a confidential memorandum he said the new policy for the Unied Kingdom was to cease compulsory sharing of lines as a means of providing services "forthwith".

But the council was informed privately that the principality and the North-east of England had been exempted from the national directive until December, 1980.

In making that declaration, described by some council members as "deliberate discrimination", the board was careful not to publicize its decision because it feared a flood of complaints from existing subscribers who have applied unsuccessfully to be taken off a shared line.

When they met last month the council members said they were dismayed to learn that British Telecommunications was unable to fulfil its promise to cease all compulsory sharing by the end of 1980.

Council members were angered further when told by Mr K. E. Spurlock, chairman of the Telecommunications Board for Wales and the Marches, that the existing policy was to be extended until March, 1982. Mr Spurlock added that he was only optimistic that line-sharing could be ended by then and could give no guarantee.

Mr. Robert Richards, secretary of the council, said: "We seem to be no nearer to coming into line with the rest of the country. The areas of greatest difficulty in providing telephones seem unfortunately to coincide with prime sites which could interest potential investors. One of our concerns is that, if they cannot even get a private telephone to themselves in their houses, they will be deterred from coming to the area

The board said the difficulty had been caused by under-investment as they had not expected some years ago the huge increase in demand for telephones in the Principality.

'I lay still after six shots hit me', Mrs McAliskey says

Mrs Bernadette McAliskey described yesterday how she survived an attack by a gunman who shot her repeatedly as she lay still on the bedroom floor of her isolated cottage in January.

"I lay absolutely still and quiet. I remember concentrating on keeping breathing", the former Westminster MP said. "If I could keep breathing I still would be living."

Mrs McAliskey and her husband Michael were severely injured in the attack after raiders "whooping and screaming like Red Indians in a cowboy film" used sledgehammers to smash down the door of their home near Coalisland, co Tyrone.

Mrs McAliskey, who is still in hospital recovering from her wounds, said in a Dublin Sunday newspaper that she would return to the campaign to gain politicval status for the men in the Maze prison.

Describing the attack, she said that the raiders smashed in the door and her husband was shot and wounded. He shouted to her to hide under her bed.

"By this time I was out of the bed and was about to rush from the room when I remembered that Fintan (her two-year-old son) wast still in the bed.

"I turned back to lift him and as I did I became aware of a man coming to the bedroom doorway. He fired almost immediately. The bullet went right through me, in my back and exiting from my chest. I fell forward on to the floor."

She hit the floor face down and still conscious "I lay there for what seemed an awfully long time the man standing behind me Then he fired again."

According to the report in northern editions of *The Sunday World*, other bullets hit Mrs McAliskey, one in the right arm near the elbow, a second in the left upper arm, a third in the left hip, a fourth near the neck and the fifth in the right leg

Newcastle school beatings inquiry sought

Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education and Science, has been asked to send inspectors to four schools in Newcastle upon Tyne where beatings are alleged to have reached a high level.

The Society of Teachers Opposed to Physical Punishment (STOPP) says in a letter to Mr Carlisle that at those schools corporal punishment is used more than once a week.

"An inspection is necessary to investigate what appears to be an intensive and callous approach to young children, demonstrated by the frighteningly high level of corporal punishment."

The society claims that children of primary school age are seven times more likely to be beaten at school in Newcastle than in any other area in England.

Education authority statistics, it adds, show 910 cases of corporal punishment for Newcastle children aged 13 and under between September, 1979, and July last year, 729 of them on children aged between four and 11.

Two schools had admitted beating children for not doing well enough at school work.

It was also claimed recently that Newcastle had the most beatings in secondary schools, after which the city council decided to consult teachers about abolishing such punishment.

Mr Jack Chadderton, Newcastle's director of education, said: "STOPP is making broad generalizations on figures from the education department and anecdotes from others. There are no national or regional figures to compare areas." He refused to name the schools involved.

Mr John Shipley, the Liberal leader on the city council, said he agreed with the demands for an inquiry and he called for the schools to be identified.

"The figures are very disturbing." he said. "It is not in the parental interest that a veil is being drawn over this."

£10,000 statuette stolen

A fourteenth-century statuette of the Virgin Mary given to West Harting parish church, West Sussex, by Lady Epstein, wife of the sculptor, has been stolen. It is valued at £10,000.

From the grassroots: Government's image may cut party votes in May

Dorset Tories facing strong Liberal challenge

By Ian Bradley

The Conservatives in west Dorset are formidably well organized. For example, all of the 62 village branches and five town branches in the constituency have been told what stall they will be running at the annual fete at the end of July. Over the weekend they were beginning to plan the detailed operation of coconut shies and tombolas.

Their electoral machinery is also being prepared for May's county council elections. For many years Conservatives have been returned unopposed in several parts of the county. But this year, they are expecting a strong challenge from the Liberals, who they complain are using dirty tactics in an effort to win votes.

Mr James Spicer, MP for Dorset West, told the annual meeting of the Folke branch of the Conservatives on Friday evening: "There is a school in Burton Bradstock with more than 60 pupils. There is no intention of closing it. Yet every house in the village has had a notice shoved through the door saying 'Your school is in danger'.

"And in a few weeks I expect to see Liberals taking the credit for saving it. With the Liberals, we are dealing with people who are totally irresponsible."

The Conservative majority on Dorset County Council has adhered rigidly to a Thatcherite line on reducing public spending. They are proud to have kept this year's rate increase to less than 10 per cent and to have reduced staff by more than 1,000 in the past 12 months, although there is still a feeling among many local Conservatives that not enough administrators have been made redundant.

Dorset was the first county to abolish meals in primary schools. Tory councillors say that as a result local parents have often got together and, sometimes using the school cooks, have provided better and cheaper meals for their children without administrative overheads.

But there is a fear that national issues and dissatisfaction with the government will cause the Conservatives to lose votes in the May elections. A group of Conservatives in Sherborne expressed their doubts about the Government's image and supported Mr Pym's call last week for a return to the centre ground.

Mrs Anne Chapman, vice-chairman of the association, said: "Our message is not getting across. We lack the common touch. Mr Healey is much easier to understand than Sir Keith Joseph".

Mr Terence Farmer, former Liberal who is now chairman-elect of the Sherborne Conservatives, said: "I do not like too much rigidity and sticking to doctrinaire policies. The Government must show some flexibility. The Tory party is at its best when it maintains the centre ground of politics.

Although west Dorset lacks large-scale industry and has escaped mass unemployment, its many small industries have been badly affected by the strength of the pound and high interest rates.

Mr Spicer said that three years ago the Newbridge Boat Company in Bridport was exporting three quarters of its output. Last year it exported nothing.

He told the meeting at Folke: "I think the Government has very little time left to help small firms. It must do something in the Budget to reduce the minimum lending rate and reduce the value of the pound."

Ultimately, however, matters of organization rather than national policy dominated the meeting. The two most hotly debated items on the branch's agenda were whether enough profit could be made on the milk bar which it is running at the fete, and whether £50 should be given to the constituency association to help Conservative Central Office.

It was eventually decided that the money should be paid but not before several members had reminded the meeting of Mrs Thatcher's injunctions about good housekeeping and always having something in the kitty.

Scots fishermen continue port blockades

From Ronald Faux
Aberdeen

Fishermen were preparing to blockade the Aberdeen market today to prevent freezer container lorries with imported fish from unloading. The fishermen, angry and dissatisfied with the Government's assurances about the flood of cheap imports, have blocked the entrance to the fish harbour with a line of vessels tied together with steel hawsers.

Privately-owned boats and company trawlers were prevented from putting to sea last night and at Peterhead a further 170 boats were blockaded in.

Action committees voted to continue the protest even though boats from English ports were putting to sea and the Scottish White Fish Producers' Association had narrowly voted to end the protest.

An association official in Aberdeen said yesterday that the city's market was likely to be inundated with foreign fish today:

"We will do everything we can to turn away the lorries", he said. "Eight boats are blocking the entrance to the fishing port but no other commercial *traffic in Aberdeen is being held up.*"

The fishermen have been told that under the tariff regulations fish is coming into the country through the Humber ports at up to £2.50 a stone cheaper than fish merchants could supply it if they had to buy fish caught by the Scottish boats at the minimum price.

An Aberdeen skipper said the result was that fish brought half the price it should do and he felt it totally uneconomic to go to sea.

In Peterhead, Mr Jake MacLean, a skipper, said: "We all would prefer to be back at work and all we want is an absolutely clear statement and assurance from the Government that they are going to do something positive about this".

The men were angry that the SWFPA, which represents about 400 boats between the ports of Wick and Anstruther, had recommended a return to work and said that fish salesmen whowere delegates to the organization had held the balan in the vote. One skipper explained that most fishermen wanted to continue the protest action.

No Stone Age art in cave, experts decide

By Norman Hammond
Archaeology Correspondent

An official inspection of the "Stone Age art" claimed to exist in a cave at Symonds Yat, Herefordshire, has shown "absolutely conclusively" that there is nothing there, it has been announced.

Mr Gale Sieveking, of the British Museum, who made the inspection with Dr Geoffrey Wainwright, of the Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments, and Dr Mark Newcomer, of London University, an expert in the engraving capabilities of palaeolithic stone tools, said: "We examined with extreme care the only two engravings claimed to exist, the 'bison' and the head of a deer. In neither case could we find a single artificially engraved line."

Mrs Anne Sieveking, a *specialist* in palaeolithic art, said that even the natural contours of the rocks did not resemble any known Stone Age examples.

Anna Ford complaint against Sunday paper is rejected by Press Council

A complaint by Anna Ford, the Independent Television News presenter, that without getting in touch with those concerned the *News of the World* published a totally untrue article in effect accusing her of unprofessional conduct, has been rejected by the Press Council.

The *News of the World* said that on ITN there was an awkward moment when Miss Ford had to mention her former boy friend, Jon Snow, then reporting from Afghanistan. Their broken romance had created an atmosphere and later they would exchange moody, meaningful glances. Colleagues said the affair ended because Miss Ford wanted to marry and have children, while Mr Snow felt it was too early to shoulder the burdens of parenthood.

Through solicitors Miss Ford complained to the Press Council that the article contained not one word of truth and the writer had not discussed it with her. It was untrue that there was an atmosphere, or that moody, meaningful glances were exchanged. Both were anxious to have children and the relationship ended for completely different reasons. The article suggested she behaved unprofessionally, being unable to separate her private and public lives.

Mr Henry Douglas, legal manager, replied that the *News of the World* was told of the atmosphere by two of Miss Ford's colleagues, who reported moody, meaningful glances. The newspaper reported correctly what colleagues said of the couple's attitude to children, but accepted Miss Ford's assurance that what they said was wide of the mark. The newspaper was prepared to publish any reasonable amending material.

Miss Ford's solicitors said they were not concerned only with inaccuracy: because of the way the article was written they would object to it even if accurate. Its complete inaccuracy made it far worse. Miss Ford, they said, had previously suffered from trying to correct inaccurate articles about her, and her attitude was "once bitten, twice shy".

The Press Council's adjudication, announced yesterday, was:

At a very late stage of the council's investigation into the complaint solicitors acting on behalf of Miss Ford sought to introduce new grounds of complaint. In the council's view they had their opportunity to raise these grounds much earlier and the council rules their late introduction inadmissible.

The Press Council does not agree *that the article in effect accused* Miss Ford of unprofessional conduct. The council rejects the complaint against the *News of the World.*

HOME NEWS

Labour groups aiming to cut or freeze public transport fares

By Our Local Government Correspondent

Labour authorities in London and the six other main city areas in England are planning a concerted policy to cut or at least freeze public transport fares in order to reverse the continuing decline in the services.

Such a commitment will have to be paid for out of the rates but the seven councils have asked for a pledge from the party nationally that the next Labour government will increase transport subsidies to help them.

The Labour group on the Greater London Council is committed to a 25 per cent cut in fares if it wins the election in May, but the others are hoping to agree within the next fortnight to freeze fares, if not reduce them, as the main plank in their election platform.

The other Labour groups involved, which all face elections in May, are from West Midlands, Tyne and Wear, South Yorkshire, West Yorkshire, Greater Manchester and Merseyside.

After meeting Mr Albert Booth, opposition spokesman on transport, at the local government conference, they complained that Tory ministers had cut public expenditure and made it clear that if transport was to be kept running with less money, authorities must raise fares and cut services.

"The Labour Party rejects this approach. We will protect transport just as education, housing and other social services need to be protected.

"There is no point in allowing the public transport system to shrink to a size where services are not in reach of people's homes or running at fares that people cannot afford, or not running at all in off-peak hours."

Mr Booth said the authorities were asking that if they stood together and took the rap for keeping fares down, they should be armed with assurances of help from a future Labour government.

He would argue very strongly in favour of it and he hoped the party would agree on such action. The authorities involved are increasingly concerned that by putting up fares fewer passengers use the service, which then has to be cut again.

They believe that the extra amount demanded in rates to pay for subsidizing public transport can be quickly offset by making more use of public transport.

Disabled councillors hounded, MP says

Mr Alfred Morris, opposition spokesman on the disabled, yesterday accused the Department of Health and Social Security of "harrying and hounding" disabled people off local authorities. He is to take up cases with Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State, in the Commons.

"There will be a massive row about this outrage", Mr Morris said.

He cited the case of Mr Douglas Grimwood, a seriously disabled person, who is chairman of Ipswich housing committee.

"A DHSS investigator has told him that, if he is fit enough to be chairman of the housing committee, he is fit enough for full-time work and thus must sacrifice his invalidity benefit. But no fewer than five doctors have agreed that he is unfit for full time employment."

Mr Morris said that Ipswich Labour Party was paying Mr Grimood the difference between unemployment pay and invalidity benefit.

He said he had also been told that two Labour councillors in Southampton have been similarly warned by the department.

"It is beginning to look like a pattern of persecution against disabled people and it is time for Mr Jenkin to give a definitive ruling and act to stop or allay the fears of disabled people who serve on local authorities."

Mr Grimwood, aged 46, last night welcomed the highlighting of his case. He was crippled in a saw mill accident in 1959 and walks with the help of crutches.

He had been told by doctors and specialists that he could work at most for two hours a day in employment of a sedentary nature.

"I wanted to contribute to the community and doctors said being a councillor would be good therapy for me as well. Since my benefit was taken away we have had to survive on £35 a week. I refuse to give in to the DHSS and give up being a councillor, but I do want my benefit back.

When he lost his benefit, the department claimed back payments of £1,400. The claim was dropped after two appeals. Later this month he is to put his case for regaining benefit to the Ombudsman.

Chinese ceramics unsold at Christie's Tokyo sale

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

Christie's had an uphill struggle with their sales of Chinese and Japanese works of art in Tokyo yesterday. The most important items of Chinese ceramics remained unsold.

The explanation given for the disaster by the auctioneers was that they came in the wake of the two sales of Chinese art from the Edward Chow collection held by Sotheby's in Hongkong and London last autumn. Prices for items from that famous collection went through the roof and the owners consigning goods to Christie's for their Tokyo sale had hoped to match the Chow price level. They were disappointed.

The top price paid was 7.2m yen (estimate 3.5m to 4.5m yen) or £15,185 for a Ryukyu island red lacquer writing box and cover inlaid with mother of pearl, and dating from the seventeenth century. It was bought by a German dealer in Japan for an American client.

The sale of Japanese art included a group of 38 lots of Japanese lacquer "recently deaccessioned by the Metropolitan Museum in New York". "Deaccessioning" is the term used by American museums to describe selling off art works that they do not want. The items in the group were sold for 13m yen (£27,500), slightly less than had been hoped for.

On Saturday Christie's had offered their Tokyo clients an important sale of Impressionist modern pictures which totalled £1,227,221, with 38 per cent unsold. The prize of the sale, a Renoir portrait of a "Girl Combing Her Hair" painted in 1896, was secured by a Swiss collector bidding over the telephone from London at 130m yen (£274,163).

Christie's had not hazarded a public estimate on that lot, nor on the more important Foujita paintings. Foujita, a Japanese artist who worked in France and died in 1968, is much prized by his countrymen. The sale underlined how much higher prices are for his work in Japan than in the West.

A new auction record price for his work was established when a painting of a woman seated in a French café sold for 80m yen (£168,716). It was bought by a Japanese dealer on behalf of a Japanese private collector.

Another important work by the artist, a reclining nude with a cat looking over her bottom, was bought in at 68m yen (£143,460) because the bidding had not come up to the minimum price acceptable to its owner.

Christie's also held a sale of modern prints in Tokyo totalling £232,096, with 18 per cent unsold.

In New York on Saturday Sotheby's also had difficulties with a two-session sale of Oriental rugs and carpets. About a third of the £573,727 total represented unsold lots; 115 out of the 347 lots failed to find buyers. The Metropolitan Museum was also a seller in this auction; they received $20,000 (estimate $7,000 to $10,000) or £8,695 from a Swiss dealer for a Lavar Kirman carpet of about 1875 (22ft 4in by 15ft 2in).

Painting by Foujita, page 14

Lively chess at British championship

By Our Chess Correspondent

Two more games were played at the weekend in the match for the Grieveson Grant British Chess Championship at the RAC club in Pall Mall. Both were drawn after much lively play and although Nunn missed a win in the long second game on Saturday, the score of 1½—1½ accurately represents the level nature of the play.

Sunday's game, in which Hartston had White, was a modern Benoni opening and was full of tactical finesse, the draw coming on the thirty-second move when a double rook and pawn ending had been reached.

Three more games are due to be played. If all those are drawn then John Nunn wins the title as he has the superior Sonneborn-Berger score from the Grieveson Grant Championship tournament played last August at Chester. Today is a free day and the fourth game will be played tomorrow, with Nunn having the white pieces.

Council will sue over demolition of almshouses

By Our Planning Reporter

South Kesteven district council is to prosecute the owners of a group of former almshouses in Denton, Lincolnshire, which were allegedly demolished without listed building consent.

The prosecution will be brought under Section 55 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1971. Magistrates may impose a maximum fine of £1,000 or a six-month prison sentence, or both.

The seventeenth-century ironstone cottages were demolished last December, soon after the council had served a repair notice. The owners have claimed that the buildings were structurally dangerous.

Mr Geoffrey Swallow, chairman of the planning committee, said yesterday that it had deferred a decision on whether to take enforcement action, which would require the cottages to be rebuilt in their original form.

WEST EUROPE AND OVERSEAS

US-Soviet arms race criticized in Germany

From Our Correspondent
Berlin, Feb 15

The American intention of first gaining military ascendency over the Soviet Union before resuming negotiations, has come in for some oblique criticism from Herr Egon Bahr, architect of West Germany's Ostpolitik and the departing manager of the Social Democratic Party (SPD).

Such a course of action by either side would lead nowhere, he said in an interview with the news magazine *Der Spiegel*. There was no alternative but to negotiate, Herr Bahr said. Everything else would lead into an abyss.

He emphasized the need to fulfil both parts of the Nato resolution—to arm while negotiating on disarmament. He suggested that whoever in the United States killed negotiations did the same to the decision on stationing American medium-range weapons in Europe from 1983.

Herr Bahr's reaction to a comment that it looked as though the Russians were killing negotiations was: "What the Soviet Union did, going on to produce and station arms, could be called stupid but the USSR was not violating any treaty by doing so."

Herr Bahr spoke of growing concern in France over the Soviet armament effort—the scope for action among other states grew less as the tension among the super powers increased. He dismissed as nonsense a suggestion that West Germany was interested in neutralization.

Naples area shaken by tremor

From John Earle
Rome, Feb 15

Eleven people died after a sharp tremor last night shook the area east of Naples devastated by the earthquake of November 23. Eight people died of heart attacks, while three prisoners at Naples' main jail of Poggioreale were knifed to death, apparently in settlement of old scores, in the confusion as the inmates surged into the main courtyard.

Signor Giuseppe Zamberletti, the Government's Commissioner for Earthquake Relief, toured the area by helicopter today to assess the damage. Much of the region is under snow, with temperatures down to −8°C (46°F). Reports spoke of fallen masonry and of disrupted telephone and electricity links, but of no direct human casualties.

The Vesuvius observatory said last night's shock, at 6.27 pm, was the most severe of 18 registered in the 24 hours up to 9 am today.

Heir to throne marries in Luxembourg

Luxembourg, Feb 15.—Prince Henri of Luxembourg, aged 25, heir to the throne of the Grand Duchy, married a Swiss commoner of Cuban origin yesterday in a ceremony attended by several European kings, queens and princes.

Miss Maria-Theresa Mestre, also 25, will become a grand duchess when Prince Henri succeeds his father, Grand Duke Jean. The bride was three when her family left Havana. She met the prince at Geneva university, where both studied political science.

The guests included Queen Margrethe of Denmark, King Olav of Norway, King Baudouin of Belgium, who is the bridegroom's uncle, the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Rainier and Princess Grace of Monaco, and members of the Spanish, Dutch and Swedish royal families.—Reuter.

100,000 farmers in street protest over food pricing policies

From Gretel Spitzer
Berlin, Feb 15

The largest demonstration by West German farmers since the end of the last war saw more than 100,000 take to the streets in 150 cities and towns yesterday in protest at West German and EEC agricultural policies.

The farmers' protest was sparked by indignation and frustration over their decreasing income and, in their view, the insufficient price increases for agricultural products scheduled by the EEC; cuts in subsidies imposed by the Bonn Government, an alleged lack of Government interest in the farmers' lot; and their poor image among the population.

Some of the speakers predict that this protest might only be a beginning, that the wind could turn into a storm if the farmers' demands were not met quickly.

The speakers included Herr Constantin von Heeremann, president of the farmers' association. He said in Westphalia that the farmers income went down, in real terms, by 25 per cent during the past five years.

Herr Gustav Sühler, president of the Bavarian Farmers' Association, speaking in Munich at one of the largest rallies with more than 30,000 people taking part, strongly criticized the state's financial austerity measures which hit farmers most seriously by making a quarter of the total cuts in farm subsidies.

Farmers also feared that individual EEC member states will do more to protect their national agriculture should no satisfactory agreement be reached in Brussels, making the West German farmers' lot more difficult. This is because—as some posters claimed—Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, unlike President Giscard d'Estaing of France, failed to fight for their interests.

A West German paper summed up the present mood of farmers by saying they felt themselves to be the nation's scapegoat, wrongly accused of living at the taxpayers' expense, blamed for poisoning people (hormones in veal, for instance), and for cruelty to animals.

The extent of the demonstration and the speeches showed how common such grievances are, and that farmers are about to lose patience if their part is not sufficiently appreciated.



Prince Claus with Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands.

Prince Claus divests himself of media 'left wing' label

From Robert Schuil
Amsterdam, Feb 15

Prince Claus of the Netherlands last night deflected allegations in the world's press that he was left wing in his political outlook.

"I really don't know what I am: It depends so much on the issue in question. I am not a homogenous person in this respect—I'm afraid I'm more of a political hybrid", he said as guest of honour at a dinner given by the Foreign Press Association in the Netherlands.

The prince, who is special adviser to the Minister of Development Cooperation, said: "The notions right or left as pointing to the outer ends of the political spectrum of our pluriform system of parliamentary democracy have never meant a great deal to me personally".

He delivered his speech in the form of an interview because "many of your colleagues —maybe some of you present here—are said to be of the opinion that we members of the Dutch royal family are much too tight-lipped and give far too few interviews".

Prince Claus parried his first question on how it felt to be a prince consort by saying that the title does not officially exist in the Netherlands.

"It only means to say in colloquial language that you are the Queen's husband. So when my wife became Queen I—in this colloquial sense—automatically became prince consort.

"The wife of a king on the other hand, becomes queen. Some sort of discrimination, one could argue. But please don't jump to conclusions now, otherwise we'll have headlines like 'Claus: Discrimination—why not king for me?'"

Describing as a "legal fiction" the assumption that for constitutional reasons some people in public life are not supposed to have opinions of their own on controversial matters, Prince Claus said that the left wing label pinned on him was in part due to the fact that since his marriage in 1966, he has been engaged in such matters as ecology, city planning, protecting nature and development in the Third World.

"Some people at the time thought these to be of the domain of the so-called political left. Maybe there was some truth in this reasoning at the very beginning.

"But now we have in this country—with gradations—quite a consensus on most of the problems connected with the aforementioned sectors of modern society," he said.

Although he was not opposed to discussions about shortcomings in the flow of information around the world and the improvement of its quality, he believed that a prerequisite was that the principle of the freedom of the press not to be jeopardized.

Spaniards demand repeal of anti-terrorism law

Continued from page 1

on his feet, bruises on several parts of his body and eye injuries including detachment of one of them from its socket.

Widespread news coverage and indignant editorials and full and prompt details on the Spanish state radio were a sign that if some of the police still have learnt nothing after four years of democracy Spanish public opinion has been shocked and outraged.

There is also scepticism expressed in private about whether the officials responsible will be vigorously punished.

The Arregui death may have immediate repercussions for the vote of confidence Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo is seeking this week from Parliament in order to form a new Government. His Centre Democratic Union party is 11 seats short of a majority and was looking to the regional parties for support.

But the Basque Nationalist Party (PNV) today indicated its reservations. As the governing party in the Basque region it did not support the anti-terrorist law passed by the Cortés last December. It was this law that permitted the Madrid police to hold Señor Arregui incomunicado and without legal assistance for a statutory 10-day period.

Señor Marcos Vizcaya, the PNV spokesman who last week negotiated in Madrid with the Prime Minister designate about his party's possible support, today emphasized the death issue could not be "marginalized". He observed: "We will see whether the Administration has the will to get to the bottom of all this or to try to cover up".

Señor Juan Maria Bandres, the San Sebastian lawyer and member of the Spanish Parliament who has regularly campaigned against the alleged continued torture of ETA suspects detained by the police, today urged the anti-terrorist law should now be declared unconstitutional.

The Arregui case had confirmed, he noted, the torture charges brought last autumn by Amnesty International against the Spanish police which Señor Juan José Rosón, the outgoing Interior Minister has still to answer.

Both Spanish trade union organizations and the Roman Catholic bishop of San Sebastian have emphasized this weekend that torturing an ETA man to death could not be condoned.

Union protest: The Spanish policemen's union has denounced "all practices of mental or physical torture" and has demanded the dismissal of the head of the police department's press office after the death of Señor Arregui.—Agence France-Presse.

Basques arrested: French police arrested over the weekend at Ciboure 17 Basques from Spain. Fourteen are suspected of belonging to the "autonomous anti-capitalist commandos", a group claiming to be auxiliary to ETA-Militar.

Best actress award for Dame Peggy

By Kenneth Gosling
Arts Reporter

Dame Peggy Ashcroft has won the award for best actress at the Monte Carlo television festival. It was for her performance in the BBC 2 Playhouse production of Stephen Poliakoff's play *Caught on a Train*.

Independent Television News won the Golden Nymph, the main award in the news reporting category, for its coverage of the Iranian Embassy siege in London last May.

Czech winner: Czechoslovak television was awarded the top prize for direction for its production *Moments for a Trumpet Song*.

In addition, first prizes went to *El Salvador*, by Nederlands Amroep Stichting of the Netherlands for best magazine television show, and to *That Summer, that Light*, by Nippon Hoso Kyokai of Japan for best scenario.

Andrei Kharitonov was named best actor for his role in *Oestre* by Soviet television.

The Prince Rainier (of Monaco) prize for best programme on nature and the environment went to *Last Round-up*, a programme in the Survival Series by Anglia Television of Britain.

Special mention was given in the television film category to *Averroes*, by Spanish television, and in the news programme category to *Famine in Uganda* by the BBC.—Agence France-Presse.

Solidarity's good-will gesture to new Premier

Polish labour disputes subside

From Dessa Trevisan
Warsaw, Feb 15

Leaders of the independent Polish trade union organization Solidarity have not yet replied to the call by General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the new Prime Minister, for 90 days free of strikes but they have shown more readiness to meet the Government's request provided that they get tangible proof that its promises will be carried out.

A sign of the good will brought about by the change at the top of the Government is the fact that all uncoordinated local strikes have been banned by Solidarity's leaders who have urged the farmers not to strike in support of their demands for an independent farmers' union.

Mr Lech Walesa, Solidarity's leader, has also urged striking students in Lodz to settle their dispute with the Government and has said that the Government should be given the chance to prove itself.

Some 10,000 students have been occupying Lodz university for 27 days and are backed by other Polish university student organizations. They have been negotiating with the Government for several days over issues which are not only academic but political.

Both sides are now under pressure to bring negotiations quickly to an end as failure would clearly lead to sympathy strikes at other universities. But a last minute hitch last night on the form of registration of what is to be the first independent student union delayed the agreement and talks were resumed today on the perennial question of recognizing the leading role of the Communist Party.

A settlement with the students would mean greater autonomy for universities and direct participation by students in the running of universities.

When the strike began 24 days ago the students presented a 52-point list of demands many of which are of a political nature. Negotiations with the Ministry of Education led to a settlement whereby compulsory courses in Russian and in Marxism were dropped.

The students agreed not to press political demands such as a reduction of military service from two years to three months.

Apart from the continuing occupation by farmers of a public building in Rzeszow in support of their demands for legislation permitting a rural branch of Solidarity Poland is now free from labour disputes.

The psychological effect of the appointment of General Jaruzelski as Prime Minister has been good on the whole. He will personally supervise—apart from defence, of which he remains in charge as Minister of Defence—foreign affairs, security, justice and religious affairs.

He has shown that he intends to move quickly and he has lost no time in producing results. The Cabinet was reorganized and responsibilities assigned to six deputy Prime Ministers who will be responsible directly to General Jaruzelski. Talks with Solidarity on a new trade union Bill were resumed over the weekend and will obviously be speeded up.

Mr Stanislaw Kania, the Polish leader, went to Prague today for a brief meeting with President Gustav Husak. They were said to have reached mutual agreement and understanding on all the questions. Prague, like East Berlin, has taken an extremely hard line over Poland's independent trade unions.

TUC offer of help to Walesa movement

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

The TUC has broken its embarrassed silence over relationships with the Poles by appealing to affiliated organizations to come forward with offers of help for Mr Lech Walesa's independent trade union movement, Solidarity.

The TUC International Committee, which has now taken over responsibility for this issue after the humiliating collapse of a trade-related visit to Poland due to be made by the Economic Committee last autumn, has recommended that British unions should supply office equipment. The TUC may also train Solidarity activists.

In a circular to more than 100 affiliated unions, Mr Len Murray, General Secretary of the TUC, has made clear the TUC's "strong wish to respond positively to requests from Solidarity for trade union assistance". Unions have been asked to tell Congress House what help they can provide.

Precise forms of support will depend on the needs and wishes of Solidarity, but the TUC suggests donations of basic office equipment, duplicating and printing machinery not readily available in Poland. It is likely that such supplies will be sent via Sweden.

The TUC may also eventually provide places for Solidarity workplace representatives on courses for basic trade union training, a move likely to prove a good deal more controversial

Mr Bazargan attacks Iran fundamentalists

From Tony Allaway
Tehran, Feb 15

Mr Mehdi Bazargan, the former Iranian Prime Minister, today broke an eight-month self-imposed silence in the nation's Parliament with a savage attack on those who took power from his moderate government.

Warning of a "dangerous deadlock" in national affairs Mr Bazargan made an unprecedented personal attack on Ayatollah Muhammad Beheshti, the head of the Supreme Court and the leader of the Islamic Republican Party (IRP) which dominates the Government.

"Little of national affairs is not influenced by or under his orders, either officially or unofficially", Mr Bazargan said.

Instead of concentrating on bringing justice to the country in an unbiased manner, the ayatollah actively adopted a political stand in leading his party, Mr Bazargan said.

"He receives ministers and ambassadors of foreign countries, inspects and supervises war fronts, offices and organizations, expresses and imposes his opinion on economic and labour affairs, the policies of the country, the formation and composition of the country . . .

"My humble request to him and his colleagues, who have dominated almost all executive authority and positions of power, is first to respect the positions and responsibilities of the President and secondly to cooperate with others according to constitutional law."

Mr Bazargan resigned as the country's first post-revolutionary prime minister in November, 1979, when student militants captured the United States embassy, clearing the way for clergy-backed Muslim fundamentalists to come to power.

Elected to parliament from Tehran last year, Mr Bazargan swore to keep silent in parliamentary debates until he considered the time right to speak out.

In a sense he did that last Wednesday when he gave a warning in a speech in the provincial city of Qazvin that the country was descending towards civil war. But today's speech, which surprised political observers with its severity and personal nature, was the first time he has spoken in Parliament.

Besides Ayatollah Beheshti, Mr Bazargan attacked Mr Muhammad Ali Rajai, the Prime Minister, for working with the IRP to "block the way for the President, not giving him the necessary reports and not observing the rights of supervision entrusted to the President." It was because of this, Mr Bazargan said, that three key ministerial positions were still vacant.

Mr Bazargan's speech greeted in silence by the Parliament rather than the uproar one might normally have expected, marks what political observers say is an attempt by the liberation movement which he heads to make a 'return to active politics.

It also marks a new element in the continuing pressure on the Rajai Government.

Mr Haig not convinced El Salvador is 'lost'

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, Feb 15

The new American Government, has yet to decide on its tactics towards Central America. The policy of President Reagan and Mr Alexander Haig is perfectly clear. They do not want any communist regimes established in the region and will do whatever is necessary to stop any such development.

The problem, which also confronted and defeated President Carter, is how to attain this objective. Many influential conservative Americans, including former supporters of the late General Somoza, believe that Nicaragua has gone communist. Mr Haig is less sure. Those same right-wingers believe that the present government in El Salvador is incapable of defeating the leftist insurgency.

Mr Haig is not persuaded. The American ambassador to El Salvador has been dismissed and the ambassador to Nicaragua has been recalled for consultation.

Aid to Nicaragua has been suspended temporarily, under various pretexts, while the State Department decides whether the Sandinist Government is a lost cause.

The identity of the man chosen will be an indication of what the Secretary of State thinks the right policy should be. A hardliner, acceptable to such congressional right-wingers as Senator Jesse Helms, would be appropriate if a policy of out-and-out confrontation with leftists is to be pursued in Central America.

The appointment of a more moderate man would suggest that Mr Haig believes that diplomacy and persuasion have their role in defeating communism.

Diplomat freed by Cuban hostage-takers

Havana, Feb 15.—A group of would-be emigrants who seized the Ecuadorean Embassy has freed one of four hostages held under a death threat.

A reliable diplomatic source named him as Señor Guillermo Bassante, the Second Secretary. Señor Jorge Perez Concha, the Ambassador, and two other hostages were still being held by the Cuban group, who include four women and six children.

The Cubans who stormed into the embassy two days ago were armed and had threatened to kill their captives if their demands were not met, the source added.

Cuba said yesterday that it would not give in to them. The party newspaper *Granma* said: "If the Ecuadorean authorities ask for help, security forces will immediately proceed to disarm the kidnappers and free the hostages."—Reuter.

Party leaders fight for survival

From Mario Modiano
Ankara, Feb 15

Turkey's two most prominent politicians, relegated to compulsory redundancy by the country's military regime, seem determined to fight for political survival.

Between them, Mr Suleyman Demirel and his arch rival, Mr Bulent Ecevit, have controlled this country's destinies as prime ministers for the best part of the past 16 years.

Today, their parties, the conservative Justice Party and the social-democrat People's Republican Party, have been closed by the military and after a spell of detention they were warned against making political statements.

The ruling generals have made it clear that even when the country returns to political normality, these politicians will be disqualified as leaders by legislation that will limit the tenure of a party leader.

There are now ominous signs that the regime, incensed by the political bickering that paralysed parliamentary business in recent years, intends to completely bar members of the last parliament from politics.

It was Mr Demirel's government that was toppled by the military coup last September. He is an old hand at this game. The first time the military ousted him in 1971, people said he was finished as a politician. Yet he made a spectacular return and four years later he was Prime Minister again.

"What is needed in Turkey today is a redefinition of the state structure and the function of its organs. And I intend to take active part in this process", he said.

Mr Bulent Ecevit, from his small, new office near the top of Cankaya Hill, enjoys a sweeping view of Ankara when the winter smog disperses. "One does not have to be a politician to contribute to the evolution of democracy in this country", he said. "I can do just as much by being a journalist and a writer."

And this is precisely what this former Prime Minister, aged 56, is doing now that his political career was abruptly interrupted by the military takeover.

I found him pounding out on his typewriter articles for his new weekly review to be named *Arayish* (Search).

"In these times of rapid change some of our institutions have lagged behind, not only in Turkey but in the whole world. We have to grasp the new dimensions of our problems and search for viable solutions", he said in flawless English.

Arayish would not be a militant publication", he said. "What Turkey needs today is peace. We shall deal in an outspoken manner with the main issues facing Turkey."

The urge to write exists also in Mr Demirel, who now holds court at home for his friends most of the day. He sits in a red leather armchair barricaded on three sides by piles of books, newspapers and dossiers as well as bric-a-brac which includes replicas of a white horse, his party's emblem.

"We are trying to pull ourselves together", he said in English, fingering his amber beads. "We are preparing to write some books to explain what we have put on the chest of Turkey, what we have done for the country".

He can pride himself that the new regime promptly espoused his own economic stabilization plan and his pro-Western, Philo-Islamic foreign policy.

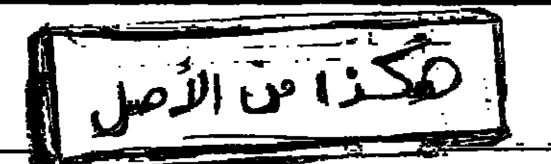
Doctors want the corpulent Mr Demirel, who is 57, to walk for at least an hour a day but the rigorous Ankara winter is keeping him in until the spring. For the time being he prefers to receive his friends in his detached house which is guarded by a cluster of policemen huddling in the warmth of a cubicle outside. But on Fridays he goes to the neighbourhood mosque for prayers.

Mr Demirel receives a pension as a former Director-general of the state hydraulic works but with inflation running at around 100 per cent, he has to fall back on his private fortune made during his years as a private contractor.

Mr Ecevit receives no pension but has a small annuity (about £50 a month) as a retired journalist, forcing him to draw on the family's savings.

He says he hopes that his new magazine, which will have "technical" support from one of the leading Turkish dailies, will pay its way from the first issue. "We will try to make it very readable", he said.

Army's role, page 12



OVERSEAS

Israel's hardline foreign minister to defend West Bank settlement drive in Washington discussions

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, Feb 15

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, Israel's hardline Foreign Minister, plans to defend the Government's expansionist settlement policy in the occupied West Bank when he flies to Washington this week for his first official discussions with senior members of the new Reagan Administration.

Diplomatic observers believe that Israel's accelerated occupation of West Bank land in the run-up to the June general election could lead to a serious difference of views between Mr Reagan's Middle East advisers and Mr Shamir.

The Israeli Foreign Minister is noted as one of the Cabinet's most outspoken supporters of the controversial programme to increase the Jewish presence on land seized from the Arabs in 1967.

Last week the American State Department issued a sharp condemnation of Israel's settlement drive, which was dismissed as both "unhelpful" and "ill-advised". The criticism followed foreign press reports that the military Government had confiscated more than 5,500 acres of West Bank land since the beginning of the year.

In a speech in Tel Aviv, Mr Shamir reacted angrily to the American criticism, which appeared to have taken him and other senior ministers by surprise. They had been hoping that the Reagan Administration would considerably soften the harsh line adopted towards Israel's settlement policy under President Carter.

"During my visit to Washington, I will explain to the Reagan Administration the importance of Israel holding on to all of Eretz Israel (the biblical land of Israel)", Mr Shamir said last week. "This principle is based on the fact that only a strong Israel will be capable of defending itself under all conditions.

"I will also explain that while it may be possible to argue about the timetable for settlement construction, the need for an Israeli presence in Judea and Samaria (the Government's official term for the West Bank) cannot be argued."

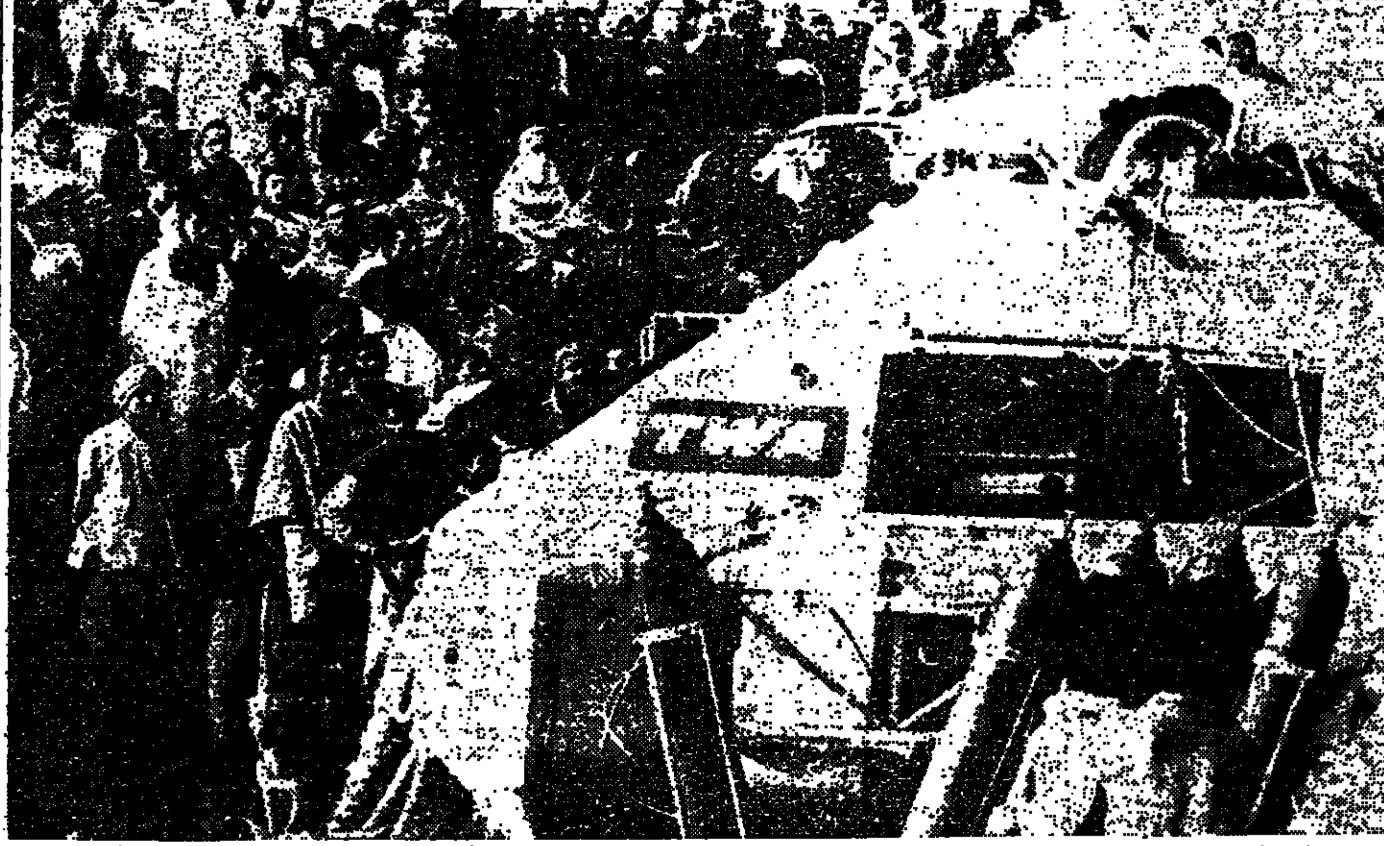
The Foreign Minister added: "Peace would never have been established had it been conditional on our absolute and complete relinquishment of a Jewish or Israeli presence in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. This is something both Egypt and the United States should realize."

It is understood that senior Israeli ministers, including Mr Shamir, had set high store by a recent remark of Mr Reagan describing the Jewish settlements as "not illegal".

But the remark prompted diplomatic protests from several Arab countries and last week the State Department made public the continuing opposition to the West Bank settlements which had earlier been channelled privately to Israel through diplomatic sources.

Commenting on the increased pace of the Israeli settlement programme, one unnamed American official was quoted by the Washington correspondent of the *Jerusalem Post* as saying: "We are angry and they know it. They are acting stupidly."

At today's Cabinet meeting, Mr Shamir gave a detailed review of the state of Israeli-American relations before his Washington visit. As well as indicating the uncompromising attitude he would adopt on the settlements issues, the minister also pledged to put over Israel's firm opposition to any European initiative on the Middle East.



Journey abandoned: Indian villagers surround the gondola of the balloon Jules Verne in which two Americans were attempting to make the first non-stop round-the-world balloon voyage after it had made a forced landing. The Americans said later they had been forced to abandon their journey.

Mr Maxie Anderson, aged 46, said: "To say that we are disappointed is an understatement." With Mr Don Ida, aged 47, Mr Anderson took off from Luxor, in Egypt, on Thursday.

Mr Anderson said the balloon could have gained altitude by dropping ballast but then it would have had to exhaust all the ballast.—Reuter.

Army alert against two threats to Nigeria

From Karan Thapar
Lagos, Feb 15

The Nigerian armed forces and security agencies have been put on a nationwide alert, according to press reports. The reason is twofold, according to diplomats: Growing tension along the Chad border and internal unrest.

The Libyan presence in Chad is seen as threatening and Nigeria has been building up its forces in the border area of north-eastern Borno for several months.

Military observers believe that one of the four army divisions, TSS and Scorpion tanks and almost a squadron of MiG 21 fighters are now in Borno.

Meanwhile, the internal tension in Nigeria was reflected by Alhaji Abubakar Rimi, Governor of the northern Kano state, at a press conference here yesterday. He said he believed that there could be another coup any day.

"Anything can happen in this country at any time", he said. "That is my considered opinion as a governor and as a general secretary of a political party (the People's Redemption Party).

"What happened in the first (democratic) era, from independence to the period of the first coup was that politicians, in particular, those of the Northern People's Congress (then the ruling party), violated the constitution at every turn. The people who did this in the NPC are now in the National Party (NPN). President Shagari was an NPC minister and now he is a member of the NPN."

His comments came after the newspaper reports about the troops having been placed on alert.

Bribery case chief witness is assaulted

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv, Feb 15

As the district court hearing the bribery case against Mr Aharon Abuhazeira, the Minister for Religious Affairs, heard the first prosecution witnesses in Jerusalem today, a religious extremist attacked the chief prosecution witness, Mr Yisrael Gottleib, the deputy mayor in his office.

Mr Abuhazeira and Mr Moshe Sabbai, an adviser in his ministry are accused of receiving bribes from Rabbi Amram Korach and Mr Shmuel Daskal in return for increased ministerial grants to religious educational institutions they represented. The four men went on trial together.

Mr Gottleib, who according to the indictment was the go-between, agreed to turn state's witness after a police agent secretly taped conversations

Nobody stopped the assailant from entering the deputy mayor's office this morning. A witness said the young man, wearing the clothes of a religious extremist, sat on a bench outside the deputy mayor's office reading psalms.

Syria steps up attack on Jordan over Camp David

From Robert Fisk,
Damascus, Feb 15

Syria has escalated its resentful but still passive attacks on Jordan by threatening to use force against King Husain if he is tempted to join the Camp David peace process.

According to the government newspaper *Tishrin*, Syria "will not, at any cost, permit another Sadat to operate at its southern frontiers". It would take "all effective deterrents" against such a conspiracy, the newspaper said.

Despite reports to the contrary, the present dispute between Syria and Jordan has not yet reached the seriousness of last November's confrontation when two divisions each of the Jordanian and Syrian armies faced each other beside T. E. Lawrence's old frontier station of Derea.

Only one Syrian brigade remains near the Jordanian border and this is a unit which is, in any case, usually based in southern Syria. Soviet advisers in Damascus are said to be urging the Syrians to desist from any military adventures in the area.

The authorities in Damascus, however, are incensed by the continuing Jordanian propaganda campaign against Syria. The Jordanian news agency Petra, for instance, claims this month that no fewer than 200 people had been killed by the Syrian special force troops in Aleppo during a search and destroy operation against members of the dissident Muslim Brotherhood organization.

But this report appears to be untrue and diplomats in Syria—officials who are used to giving some credibility to rumours of repression in Hama and other Syrian cities—say that the Aleppo story is a figment of the Jordanian's imagination.

The Jordanian accusation that the Syrian Government was behind the kidnapping of the Jordanian chargé d'affairs in Beirut Mr Hishan Muhaissen, has particularly angered the Syrian Government. *Tishrin* described the affair as a "false kidnapping" intended "to serve as a pretext for waging a campaign of lies against Syria."

Sao Paulo office block fire leaves 17 dead

Sao Paulo, Feb 15.—At least 17 people were killed and more than 50 injured yesterday by a fire which swept through a 23-storey office block in the heart of Sao Paulo's business district, police said.

Firemen rescued terrified people trapped on higher floors by getting a wire across to a neighbouring building. Helicopters circled the burning tower, but were unable to land on the roof. Most of the victims were cleaners.

The fire began just before midday on one of the lower floors. Firemen fought the fire for seven hours before bringing it under control.

In 1974, 187 people died in a similar office block fire in the city. Television viewers throughout the world saw 43 people leap to their deaths from the upper storeys.

Las Vegas fire: Police expect to arrest at least one more person in connexion with a fire at the Las Vegas Hilton hotel which killed eight people, the chief investigator has said.—Reuter.

Homosexuals defiant in California

From Ivor Davis
San Francisco, Feb 15

In the bars along San Francisco's Castro Street, home of the city's burgeoning homosexual community, the conversation was light-hearted over the recent news from Britain that a gay group planned to tackle Mount Everest.

But the talk turned edgy when a visitor brought up the latest pronouncements of members of the Moral Majority on the question of the Bay City's traditionally tolerant attitude to its homosexual citizens.

The Moral Majority, an alliance of Christian fundamentalist groups across the nation, is no longer considered a fringe group of the extreme right wing. Their activities range from the movement to put prayer back into the schools, to a campaign against the Maryland bakery which was selling gingerbread men and women, complete with genitalia.

They proved their power last November when they turned out hundreds of thousands of fundamentalists to get Mr Ronald Reagan elected President.

Their latest salvo came in northern California a few days ago when Mr Dean Wycoff, spokesman for the Santa Clara County Moral Majority said in a television interview: "I agree with capital punishment and I believe homosexuality is one of those (things) that could be coupled with murder

Along with a coalition of other groups, Mr Wycoff gave warning that his members would launch a \$3m (£1,282,000) media campaign against homosexuality and called San Francisco "the Sodom and Gomorrah of the nation and the armpit of this perverted movement".

It is estimated that 15 per cent of the population of San Francisco is homosexual (there are nearly threequarters of a million people in the centre). That makes it one of the largest centres for homosexuals in the world.

A day later Mr Wycoff modified his capital punishment statement. Without actually retracting he said fellow members of his group had urged him to clarify that he was speaking only for himself.

His statement along with a growing climate of antagonism towards homosexuals that some "gay" people say they detect here, has produced concern and tension in the community. On Castro Street homosexuals are in defiant mood.

But Mr Robert McQueen, editor of the *Advocate*, the fortnightly national newspaper which bills itself as "America's leading gay magazine" (circulation 70,000) did not shrug off what he called Mr Wycoff's "violent rhetoric".

"It scares us to death as it should coming from a purported Christian movement.

The Rev Richard Zone added fuel to the controversy. He heads a San José, California, fundamentalist movement called "In God We Trust". He said the Moral Majority drive is concentrating on San Francisco first because "if we can do it in San Francisco we can do it anywhere".

The *Los Angeles Times* contributed to the debate with a cartoon by their Pulitzer prize-winning cartoonist Conrad last week, showing a cross gradually tilting over until it changed into a swastika, with the caption: "Today San Francisco's homosexuals . . . tomorrow . . ."

Chile agrees to Pope's plan in border dispute

Santiago, Feb 15.—Chile has accepted Vatican proposals for a settlement of its long-standing border dispute with Argentina, President Augusto Pinochet said last night.

He told journalists in the southern town of Punta Arenas last night that although the proposals were not entirely satisfactory to hile, his Government had accepted them because of the spiritual quality and moral force of those who proposed them.

The Pope is mediating in the dispute over three tiny islands in the Beagle channel at the southernmost tip of South America, which almost led to war between Chile and Argentina two years ago.—Reuter.

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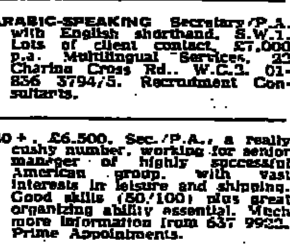
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OVERSEAS

Australians withdraw recognition from Khmer Rouge regime

From Douglas Aiton
Melbourne, Feb 15

The Australian Government has withdrawn its recognition of the ousted Pol Pot regime in Kampuchea, Mr Michael Mackellar, the acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, announced yesterday.

He said the Government had delayed its announcement in order not to cut accross the diplomatic efforts by the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean) for a political settlement. The Asean ministers had been attending a non-aligned meeting in Delhi which ended on Friday. It is believed the Cabinet decided to withdraw recognition two weeks ago.

The announcement made it clear that Australia's action was not intended to endorse the Vietnam-backed regime of Mr Heng Samrin. Public pressure to withdraw recognition from the Pol Pot regime has grown steadily during the past year as details of its mass murders of Kampucheans have trickled out of the country.

But although the Australian Government publicly declared its abhorrence of the ousted regime it came under strong pressure from Asean nations to recognize it until an acceptable government was installed.

Another critical reason for Australia's reluctance to abandon the Pol Pot regime formally has been fear that the move would be seen as recognition of the Heng Samrin Government.

Mr Mackellar's statement, in part, said: "This means Australia now does not recognize any regime in Kampuchea. Australia has no intention of recognizing the Heng Samrin regime, condemns Vietnam's invasion of Kampuchea and calls for the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from that country.

"We are committed to a comprehensive political settlement in Kampuchea and fully support the provisions of the Asean-sponsored United Nations General Assembly resolutions on Kampuchea.

"Australia regarded the policies of Pol Pot and other leaders of his regime as abhorrent and hopes that its action now in de-recognizing that regime will contribute to the emergence in Kampuchea of a government truly representative of the Khmer people.

Last straw: Australia's formal repudiation of the Khmer Rouge regime together with other hostility towards the regime's leaders could be the last straw for most of them, Western diplomats in Bangkok said today (Neil Kelly writes from Bangkok).

They did not regard the intention of Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the former head of state, to talk about a united front with Mr Khieu Samphan, Prime Minister of the Khmer Rouge regime, as acceptance of the existing leadership of the Khmer Rouge.

Prince Sihanouk had made the exclusion of non-communists from Khmer Rouge control a condition of his acceptance of the front's leadership.

The same Western diplomats say that the latest repudiation of the Khmer Rouge regime may in fact produce essential changes without which a Kampuchean united front against Vietnam will not be viable.

No Peking comment: Chinese newspapers today reported without comment Australia's decision to stop recognizing the Khymer Rouge regime.

In Manila the Philippines and Indonesian foreign ministers today agreed that Prince Sihanouk would be acceptable to them and probably to the other members of Asean as political leader of Kampuchea.—Agence France-Presse.

Russia deaf to call on Afghanistan

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, Feb 15

The Soviet press today passed over in telling silence the call by the non-aligned countries for a withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan and instead heralded the meeting in Delhi as a triumph for Soviet policies.

Pravda said the movement had again reasserted its anti-imperialist line, and pointed to imperialism as the main culprit for international tension. At the same time, the paper noted, the conference had strongly supported Soviet proposals for a peace settlement in the Middle East, for stability in South-East Asia and for getting rid of foreign military bases in the Indian Ocean.

Pravda did not refer to the defeat of the attempt by pro-Soviet nations to single out the American base on Diego Garcia, nor did it mention the call for a withdrawal of Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea or the last-minute squabble over the refusal to refer to Afghanistan as "the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan".

All these decisions represent a setback for Soviet attempts to convince the non-aligned movement that the Soviet Union and other communist countries are the movement's natural allies.

The Russians last week scorned suggestions that the non-aligned should steer a middle course between East and West and so they cannot have been pleased by the clear rejection of attempts to identify the movement more closely with the Soviet block.

Pravda today renewed Soviet accusations that the Americans were doing all they could to split the non-aligned movement

Victory claim: The Peking *People's Daily* today hailed the non-aligned foreign ministers' conference as a "significant victory" in defending the movement's principles, and exposing Vietnam and Cuba as the Trojan Horse of the Soviet Union.—Agence France-Presse.

Prisoners of conscience



E Germany: Gunter Beyer

By Caroline Moorehead

Günter Beyer, a builder, was 24 when he was sentenced to three years and three months imprisonment for "treasonable passing on of information". Human rights organizations believe, however that his sentence is due to his attempts to obtain official permission to emigrate.

Herr Beyer had been applying repeatedly for an exit permit for more than three years before his arrest. He gave as reason the fact that, as convinced Christian, he could not come to terms with the system in East Germany.

When his requests continued to be turned down, he wrote appealing for support to Dr Kurt Waldheim, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and to other foreign organizations.

He was arrested on December 29, 1979. Observers believe that the charge of "treasonable passing on of information" was made to relate to the letters he wrote to organizations abroad about his emigration.

Journalist freed: Mr Iran Huyen, aged 63, better known as a journalist under the ame of Kao Giao—whose case appeared in this column on November 26, 1979—has been released.

A familiar figure around Saigon before the fall of the South Vietnamese regime, he had spent nearly three years in a "reeducation camp".

Pakistan invites UN to supervise Afghan border

From Kuldip Nayar
Delhi, Feb 15

Pakistan is willing to accept United Nations observers or a contingent from the Islamic or non-aligned countries to supervise the border with Afghanistan in order to remove doubts about "outside interference", Mr Agha Shahi, the Foreign Minister, said.

Before leaving here, he said: "We cannot stop the crossing of the border by armed tribesmen—they have been doing so since the time of antiquity. They do not require permission to go into Afghanistan and come back or vice versa".

Mr Shahi also said that when President Zia and President Taraki of Afghanistan met in Havana in August, 1979, Mr Taraki complained about interference from Pakistan. President Zia pointed out that since the Soviet Union, with 80,000 troops, could not close the border, how could Pakistan seal it?

Mr Shahi said Pakistan had told the Soviet Ambassador in Islamabad that he was free to investigate whether Pakistan was training or helping the guerrillas and even offered him a helicopter.

Mr Shahi ruled out the possibility of Pakistan holding talks with Afghanistan. "We would not be willing to meet purely on a bilateral basis with the representative of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) even in Switzerland, Sri Lanka and any other country."

He gave the names of the two countries to counter the criticism that Pakistan was opposed to talks at present because it did not want to hold them on Indian soil.

Mr Shahi said Pakistan was glad that the Indian Government had said on several occasions that it would hold the discussions under the Simla agreement. However, he did not support the idea of joint defence or a no-war pact.

Mr Shahi specifically mentioned the Indo-Soviet treaty in this context. He said: "In the past we have had tragic memories of the operation of the treaty. But looking to the future we feel that this closeness militates against more autonomous geo-political policy.

"If you want to keep a special relationship with one country then naturally our freedom of action is always conditioned by the requirement of the obligation of the special relationship."

As for a no-war pact, Mr Shahi said that the Simla agreement was such a pact and that Mrs Gandhi had said so because the agreement asked both countries not to take up arms to solve their problems. A formal pact would cause "all kinds of mischief between countries".

There is growing evidence that the love of uniforms and a common appearance which binds together the skinheads and loutish youths who cause violence on soccer terraces and in the streets is being wilfully exploited by the extreme right in British politics. Peter Evans sifts the proof and reports on a disturbing trend.

When being a skinhead becomes part of life



Photograph by Homer Sykes

The extreme right-wing British Movement has already gained recruits from skinheads and football supporters. But even before it got hold of them and they began giving Nazi salutes and chanting racialist slogans, some fans were displaying characteristics that may help to explain not only the phenomenon of soccer hooliganism but the roots of inter-group conflict among the young.

Writing in *The Glory Game* (Weidenfeld and Nicolson), published in 1972, Hunter Davies quotes some fans of Tottenham Hotspur: "It's more exciting if you hit someone, especially some Northern bastard. I hate all Northerners. You've got to show them the Cockneys are best."

At the Coventry ground, the Tottenham fans sang Power to the Park Lane to the tune of Power to the People. At the chant of "we hate Arsenal", they pushed one fist in the air in front of them, in salute. There was a skirmish for extra territory. Davies said they "were all in rotten jobs, from rotten homes.... There was no other excitement or meaning in their lives".

Eight years later, on December 2, 1980, Tottenham Hotspur played West Ham. Bryan Gould, a reporter for Thames Television's TV Eye, said: "The game was marred by war on the terraces." The report referred to youths wearing British Movement insignia, shouting anti-Jewish and anti-black taunts. There were 61 arrests. The week before, the British Movement held its first national march, the report said.

The step into politics is only a small one, but the characteristics displayed by the fans are not unique. They bear marked similarities to those of movements in different parts of the world with nationalist or tribal overtones. In the case of the football fans, the link between them is obvious: it is their team, which enables them to focus their group loyalty on to flesh and blood heroes in an otherwise de-personalized world, waving banners, flags and singing anthems.

Given the world-wide revival of nationalist feeling, often leading to inter-group violence and, in extreme cases, terrorism, it is not surprising that the United Kingdom has not escaped.

Sometimes the links between members of groups are geographical (to do with territory), sometimes linguistic, often religious or racial. Therein lies the appeal of Mr Enoch Powell, as a champion of nationalism and tribalism, of which the Northern Ireland Protestant militant is an example.

In 1970 skinheads (not at his behest) formed a guard of honour for Mr Powell when he spoke at Smethwick, which became notorious in the 1960s as a place where racialism entered major party politics. London dockers and meat porters marched in support of his views. They are very tribal. Their jobs were handed down within families, and they felt their communities would be threatened by opening them to newcomers.

The dockers felt they also faced an economic threat from the introduction of containerization and old communities were scattered by redevelopment. They were astonishingly closely knit, which gave them their endurance against Hitler's bombs. One of the leaders of the revolt on the Isle of Dogs, one of the last cockney villages, which made a unilateral declaration of independence against bureaucratic neglect of the community, told me that several hundred of his family had lived in adjoining streets. With their street parties, jargon, and family celebrations, ritual was important to them. But now they are scattered to distant townships and new estates.

In their own community they mattered. They were "recognized in the way they wanted to be recognized." That phrase in fact comes not from a cockney but from a skinhead, a 14-year-old grammar school girl, who wrote in an essay published in the county education committee's schools bulletin: "When I had long hair I was nothing, and now I count myself as being just another outcast of society. Being a skinhead means really something to me.... It has become part of my life.

"I would even say it is my life. I look forward to the next aggro or even the next time we will be out together and have a great time. If you are within their group, and have been eccepted as one of them, they are great to you.... Belong to them, and they will recognize you in the way you want to be recognized."

This yearning for identity, to belong to something, provides easy pickings for the British Movement. In the early 1970s a group of skinheads from Wolverhampton descended on the Aberystwyth office of Plaid Cymru, the Welsh Nationalist Party. They came because they thought the Welsh were lucky having something to fight for.

In Scotland, the Tartan Boys, a Protestant Group, support Glasgow Rangers, and are said by their opposite numbers, the Roman Catholic youth, to belong to "the other tribe." That sense of tribalism also came out in Liverpool in 1972, when skinheads and young blacks battled. One group of skinheads called themselves John Bulls.

Today, the appeal of right wing extremist groups to unemployed white youth is that it provides an easy answer for the plight they find themselves in and a convenient scapegoat for it—the blacks, Asians and Jews. One thing common to all such movements appears to be its sense of nostalgia for the past, the potency of symbols to them, and a consciousness of roots as a means of providing stability at a time of swift change.

The general rule seems to be that the more the identity of a group seems threatened, whether by destruction of language, removal of territory, economic deprivation, or racial and religious prejudice, the more it asserts it, like a battle standard, by waving flags and shouting slogans. Emotion takes over reason. Prejudice awakens prejudice in return. On football grounds, fans assert their identity by waving scarves, chanting, singing team songs. *The Phoenix*, the British Movement's newspaper, contains an advertisement for Songs and Marches of Britain.

It includes songs in Welsh. The arson of English second homes in Wales is a crime deserving punishment; but the extremism expressed by it and by sabotage in aid of the Welsh language is a classic symptom.

The economic tendency to centralization and concentration has closed railway lines, schools, post offices and other rural community assets. While parts of Wales suffered economic decline, the people who lived there were busy protesting about plans to flood territory to provide water for the distant English. Water is an economic asset: you use more of it as your standard of living goes up—on washing machines, for watering lawns and cleaning cars and having baths. The distant English came flooding into Wales to buy second homes, thus driving the price up beyond the means of local people, and accelerating the drift away, eroding the language.

In *Identity, Youth and Crisis* (Faber and Faber, 1971), Erik Erikson, Professor of Human Development and Lecturer in Psychology at Harvard University, says: "Where historical and technological development, however severely, encroaches upon deeply rooted or strongly emerging identities (ie, agrarian, feudal, patrician), on a large scale, youth feels endangered, individually and collectively, whereupon it becomes ready to support doctrines offering a total immersion in a synthetic identity (extreme nationalism, racism or class consciousness) and collective condemnation of a totally stereotyped enemy of the new identity."

He might have added "religious" to thelist of identities that appeal, but, as far as it goes, the statement appears to have been borne out by events since, particularly if another of his findings is added: "Where a group's socio-economic status is is danger, the implicit moral code becomes more restricted, more magic, more exclusive, and more intolerant, as though an outer danger had to be treated as an inner one".

Erikson is talking mainly about youth, although there is evidence to suggest that the explanation has more general application, even if it is true that youth very often sets the pace in protest. The more extreme nationalisms fit Erikson's thesis. The pace of change, accelerated by technological development for economic reasons, may well make tribal identities become more exclusive and sometimes to become more intolerant.

In the case of the Nazis, a movement born at a time of crippling inflation, the Jews were the "stereotyped enemy". And as Dr. Jacob Gewirtz, director of the defence department of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, said on *TV Eye*: "The Nazis in the 1920s and 1930s built up their power structure precisely with this kind of displaced youth which had no place to go, which was disgruntled, angry and they gave them a very powerful means of expression".

Though Dr Gewirtz said then he could not see the same sort of movement catching on in Britain, the sudden upsurge of Muslim revivalism in Iran bears all the characteristics Professor Erikson mentioned. Certainly, the technological growth espoused by the Shah encroached upon the identities of traditional Muslims; certainly their implicit moral code has become more restricted, more exclusive and more intolerant.

The same point is illustrated by the Provisional IRA who, following an almost Puritanical moral code in the "no-go" areas, dealt with alleged wrong-doers by shaving their heads and other punishments.

Nationalistic protests often invoke as inspiration dead heroes. That is why the martyrdom of hunger-strikers is such a threat to stability. It was Padreig Pearse who said that patriotism "is in large part a memory of heroic dead men and a striving to accomplish some task left unfinished by them." Today, the Rev Ian Paisley evokes the spirit of Carson.

Owain Glyndwr is a potent hero in Wales. In Venezuela, the National Liberation Armed Forces (FAIN) talked in a manifesto about "fulfilling the nationalistic thoughts of Simon Bolivar" and of "defending the national heritage." In 1967, the Tupamaros issued a manifesto saying that they were not prepared to stand by while the patrimony of Artigas was sold to foreigners. (General Josè Artigas was one of the heroes of Uruguay's war of independence). The Tupamaros took their name from Tupar Amarus, the celebrated Peruvian Indian leader, who was burnt at the stake by Spaniards in 1782 for organizing a revolt against colonial rule.

For the football fans of Manchester United, the heroes who died in, or survived, the Munich air crash, are potent symbols. The gang Hunter Davies talked to at Tottenham had pictures of John White, a member of the famous 1961 team ringed in black on their bedroom walls, in perpetual mourning for his death.

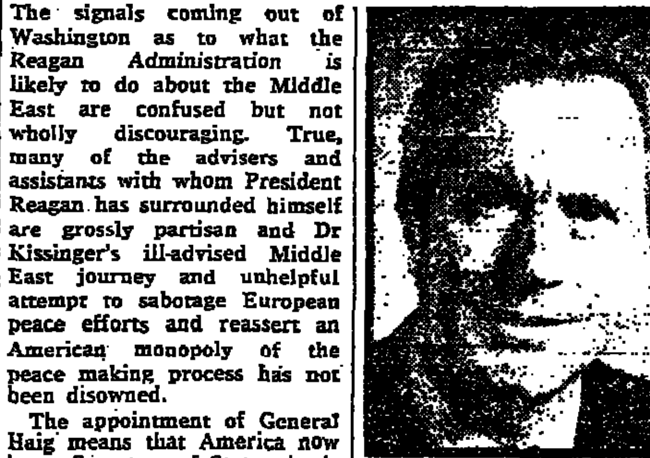
Though there are black heroes, whose unfinished task has been left for others to complete, there remains a search for identity, which black consciousness, or black nationalism, expresses. Instead of aping white culture, black people have looked deep into their roots, calling themselves Afro-Americans, adopting "Afro" hair-styles, encouraging the study of black history, as an alternative to the white version in orthodox text books, and the Christians among them worshipping a black Christ and sanctifying a black Madonna. Alex Haley evoked this yearning for an eloquent past by the search for his own roots. A hostel for homeless blacks in West London was called Dashiki, the Swahili word for *shelter*.

Mrs Jill Knight, Conservative MP for Birmingham, Edgbaston, on February 9 called on Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, not to allow his inquiry into racist organizations to be racist, but to look into the increasing numbers of indigenous white people being harassed on a racial basis and the English people "whose homes are deliberately burned to a cinder by members of a lunatic fringe in Wales. Nothing could be more racist than these attacks", she said. "All of us deplore attacks surely, on any person—whether he or she be black, brown, yellow or white."

Those who believe that it is necessary only to blame individuals and punish them for their actions will look no further than Mrs Knight wants. But it might also help to reduce tension in the United Kingdom if the examination were extended to the forces that give rise to it—the unemployment and deprivation that makes for bitterness, hopelessness and the creation of outcasts; and if action could be taken to reduce them.

View from Westminster

Will Mr Reagan fall into the Middle East trap?





The signals coming out of Washington as to what the Reagan Administration is likely to do about the Middle East are confused but not wholly discouraging. True, many of the advisers and assistants with whom President Reagan has surrounded himself are grossly partisan and Dr Kissinger's ill-advised Middle East journey and unhelpful attempt to sabotage European peace efforts and reassert an American monopoly of the peace making process has not been disowned.

The appointment of General Haig means that America now has a Secretary of State who is familiar with the European scene, and changes in the Senate have brought into influential position men who have been much more courageous and even-handed than is usual with members of that august body when dealing with matters affecting Israel.

But there are three areas of danger which will have to be watched with the greatest vigilance by Europeans as well as by Americans. The first is that the new Administration may try to rely on "the military option" as the best way of supporting friendly regimes in the Middle East. This failed to sustain the Shah; it would be equally unsuccessful elsewhere in the area. The only effective way for the United States to support its friends is by intelligent political action, and where the Middle East is concerned that means a sensible, pragmatic and above all impartial attitude towards the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Second, there is the "Kissinger fallacy"—the idea that peace can be brought to the Middle East by dodging the main issues and concentrating instead on the more manageable ones—the so-called step by step approach.

The years since Dr Kissinger muffed his unique opportunity of reaching a conclusive settlement in the immediate aftermath of the October '73 War have amply demonstrated the shortcomings of this approach. All it has done is to give Israel time to consolidate its holdings on the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan Heights and to undermine the essential compromise on which any negotiated peace must be based—Israel's withdrawal from occupied territory in exchange for Arab recognition of Israel's right to live in security.

The Carter Administration started rightly with the aim of *reaching a comprehensive* peace but then allowed itself to be side-tracked by Mr Begin into the futility of endless, time-wasting negotiations about so-called "Palestinian autonomy". Will the Reagan Administration fall into the same error of fiddling to Israel's tune while vital Western interests burn in the Middle East?

The third danger is that we in Europe and, even more, our friends in America will fall into the trap of assuming that once Mr Begin and the Likud have been defeated in the July elections the whole scene in the Middle East will be so transformed that the search for peace can make a fresh and more hopeful start. Almost certainly this is a dangerous illusion since it ignores both the past record and the stated intentions of the Labour Party, which is expeced to form the next Israel government.

The trouble is that the West is still very gullible where Israel is concerned, still prone to accept at their face value Israeli protestations of peace which are belied by Israeli actions on the ground. Of course many Israelis are genuinely concerned with security but they present impossible conditions for achieving it. As Dr Kissinger once remarked: "The desire of one power for absolute security means absolute insecurity for all the others".

Years ago Christopher Sykes, a sympathizer with Israel and the Zionist movement, wrote that it had become "a Zionist habit to speak not only in two but in several voices". It still is. In broad terms "three voices are there". One is humanity—the voice of Martin Buber and Judah Magnes, a voice all too little heard in the Israel of today. One is of brutality and arrogance—the voice of the Likud party and the Gush Emunim. And one is of "moderation", but all too often an equivocal moderation—the voice of the Labour Party whether under Golda Meir, Yitzhak Rabin or Shimon Peres, unless, on achieving power, he makes an unexpected volte face.

It is often forgotten that it was while the Labour Party was in power that the pattern of Israeli policy in the occupied territories was set. The difference between earlier Israeli governments and Mr *Begin's is one of degree, not of* principle.

The portents for a new Labour Government are not reassuring. At its congress in December the party produced a political manifesto which has been greeted with gloomy comment even in the Hebrew press. Writing in *Ha'aretz* of December 28, the political commentator Amnon Barzilai remarked: "The manifesto of the party largely constitutes a return to the one drawn up in February, 1977. Not only are the hawks and doves inside the Labour Party still divided, but the hawks have won the day".

In other words the manifesto actually puts the clock back to before President Sadat's momentous visit to Jerusalem. On Israeli settlements in the occupied territories it says:

"The settlements in the Jordan Valley, including those north-west of the Dead Sea, in Gush Etzion, around Jerusalem, in the southern Gaza strip and the Golan Heights have been established on the basis of strategic defence consideration. Israel's Labour Government will consolidate and develop them."

And even more depressingly:

"The Israeli Labour government will insist that in peace time the military areas and settlements which include the Jordon Valley with the area north-west of the Dead Sea, the area around Jerusalem and the southern Gaza Strip will be included in the territory to remain, under Israeli sovereignty".

That means that Israel under a new Labour government will demand a "territorial compromise" which leaves about a third of the West Bank and Gaza in Israeli hands and under Israeli sovereignty. It means that the Palestians will have to rest content with only perhaps 15 per cent of their original homeland. The Labour Party position is more extreme than it was before Mr Begin came to power.

Clearly there is no basis in this manifesto for any serious negotiations, let alone for any "just and lasting" peace. There can only be a lasting peace if Palestinian rights are recognized and if negotiations are conducted with the only effective representative body of the Palestinian people, the PLO and King Husain has clearly recognized this fact. So, it seemed, had European governments, though the Palestinians may de excused for feeling that Europeans are astonishingly timid in following up their first steps and do not appear to realize fully the disastrous effect inside the PLO which a continued failure to translate words into action is likely to have.

Although in his interview with *The Times* Yassar Arafat made it clear that he was willing to give the Reagan Administration a chance to start talking instead of electioneering. And now President Sadat has also extended a welcome to greater European involvement.

It may be that the only realistic conclusion any objective observer can reach is that Israel's leaders are incapable of making peace and that if there is ever to be a settlement it will have to be imposed on them in one way or another.

It may even be that, given the climate of opinion which persistent Zionist indoctrination has created in Israel, the West is being not merely naive and unrealistic but even in a sense unreasonable in demanding genuine moderation from them. An enforced peace may be the only way of extricating Israel from unconditional war and of enabling its people to escape from the captivity of their past. In their hearts many Israelis might even welcome having peace forced upon them.

Dennis Walters

The author is Conservative MP for Westbury.

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Rugby Union







In with the new : a first cap for Pearce, recalls for Gravell and Morgan. Out with the old : Davies loses his place and J. P. R. Williams goes.

Captain and six crew fall to the Welsh axe

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

Steve Fenwick, captain of Wales in their centenary season, and J. P. R. Williams, the most capped of all their players, and five others, including both half backs, Gareth Davies and Brynmor Williams, have been dropped for the home match against Ireland next Saturday in the most ruthless purge of Welsh resources for six years.

Clive Davis (lock), Gareth Williams (No 8) and Robert Ackerman (wing) are other less distinguished heads to roll and, in addition, there are two positional changes involving the expected switch of Jeff Squire to No 8, and, less predictable, the move of David Richards from centre to wing. Squire now resumes the captaincy which was his throughout last season.

Gwyn Evans, of Maesteg, who won a first cap when replacing David Nicholas on a wing at Murrayfield nine days ago, takes over the full back position from J.P.R. The Llanelli centre, Ray Gravell, who played in all four Lions internationals in South Africa last summer, is restored at centre to win his 15th Cap, and his first since 1979. His club colleague, Peter Morgan, another Lion, has been chosen alongside him.

The new half backs, Gary Pearce and Gerald Williams, played together in the B international against France last autumn. Both of them were in line for their first Caps, and both come from Bridgend. Pearce, who is 20 years of age, is a typical Welsh stand-off and an effective goal kicker. Williams, who led the B side, has been named as vice-captain.

At forward, Allan Martin (Aberavon) making an anticipated return to strengthen the lineout, will set a Welsh record at lock by winning his 33rd cap and not equal it, as I mistakenly suggested last week. The Ebbw Vale flanker, Clive Burgess, who won four caps in 1977, takes over from Squire on the blind side flank.

Everyone had expected the selectors to take the axe in their hands following the pale performance at Murrayfield when Wales lost 15—6, but few can have predicted the enthusiasm with which they would wield it. The biggest surprise must be the omission of their Lions half backs, both of whom now find themselves named as reserves. It is little more than three weeks since Gareth Davies was excelling everybody with his immaculate line-kicking against England. Now he falls into disfavour, a temporary one surely, because he has not been getting his line moving as smoothly as of yore. There might also be some reservations about Davies's fitness, although Keith Rowlands, chairman of selectors, asserted yesterday that the new side had been chosen on merit alone.

The departure of Fenwick, the most capped (30) of Welsh centres, was easier to anticipate than that of J. P. R. Williams, whose 55 appearances for Wales is a world record for a full back. Williams may not be the great all-round force he was but he retains some stirling qualities and there was no clear-cut replacement for him. His successor, Gwyn Evans, is a versatile performer who has played for Wales B at stand-off and centre. The selectors clearly hope that he will now concentrate successfully on one position.

The omission of Fenwick, who is 30, and Williams, 32 next month, looks to mark the end of a distinguished international road. Indeed, after the Welsh training at Bridgend yesterday, Fenwick hinted that the selectors' decision might persuade him to follow Derek Quinnell and Paul Ringer into retirement from the international scene.

He seemed to think that the result at Murrayfield would have been little different with different players behind the scrummage. "Such is life," he said, "but I'm really surprised at the number of changes made".

Mr Rowlands admitted that his selectors had held "the most difficult and emotional meeting we've ever had". He said that all but one of their number knew what it felt like to be dropped from an international side.

He conceded that Gareth Davies had "not been operating quite at the highest level of fitness", and he expressed the hope that Richards, in due course, would re-emerge in the Welsh centre. The choice of Richards on a wing underlines Welsh lack of resources in that position, although this is not a view wholly shared in Maesteg, where they have been hoping that Colin Donovan would get his chance.

England pick their own Davies

Huw Davies, the Cambridge University captain and stand-off half, will become England's second new cap (the other being Moseley's Nick Jeavons) when England play the Calcutta Cup match against Scotland at Twickenham next Saturday. He was named by the selectors after John Horton suffered a recurrence of his hamstring injury when playing for Bath against Gloucester on Saturday. Nick Preston (Richmond), who won three caps in the centre last season but can also play at stand-off—a position he occupied against Blackheath this weekend—has been called up as a reserve.

Davies, 22 on Wednesday, has a dual qualification, but was born in England at Eastbourne. After leaving King Edward VI GS, Stourbridge, and moving through the 19 group and students' teams, he nailed his colours to the English mast by playing for the England under-23 and England B teams and wearing a white jersey on the tour to Japan and Fiji in 1979. In his days at UWIST, where he acquired a BSc in Economics, he played for Cardiff, mostly in the centre. He is currently a member of Coventry.

An operation for appendicitis curtailed his Cambridge activities last term, but he recovered just in time to impress all the pundits with his confident, poised performance in the University Match. His kicking under pressure is now much more accurate and assured and he has looked this season to be ready for the highest honours.

Tigers sharpen their claws on hapless opponents

By Peter West
Leicester 37 Newport 6

It took the Tigers some while at Welford Road on Saturday to express their evident superiority with something more prepossessing than penalties, but four tries in the final quarter served notice that they are sharpening their claws for Bristol's cup visit on February 28. The prolific Hare contributed 21 points to a victory by three goals, five penalty goals and a try to two penalty goals, and no one could remember Leicester beating their old Welsh rivals by a margin as sweeping as this. Against Roundhay, Ballymena, London Scottish and Newport they have accumulated 140 points in four successive games.

The star of the show on this occasion was Dodge, whose instinctive feeling for doing the right thing at the right time put a touch of genuine class on everything he essayed. His distribution was faultless, his tactical kicking exact, and he looked as sharp on the break as I have seen him.

It revives old memories to watch this fine Leicester side making the ball do the work to get someone into space and, moreover, putting their accurate passes in front of the recipient. They have the confidence and skills to attack in this fashion often from deep in their own territory, and to all these activities Cusworth's unselfish contribution at stand-off half should not be underestimated.

Leicester did not get much joy out of Waters, Newport's lock, at the lineout but they have learnt to live on tenuous rations in this area, and their scrummage and maul platform was solid enough to set up all the tries close in. Kenney got the first with a sizzling open-side break behind a scrummage on Newport's 22, and with never a hand laid upon him. He all but got the second, too, from his put-in close to Newport's line, but it was left to Wheeler to complete the job.

Minutes later, a crowd not far short of 4,000, enjoying themselves on a sharp and sunny afternoon, raised the loudest cheer of all when Kenney scampered up the right touchline from a lineout and his captain dummied over from 30 metres out for his second try. One of Leicester's most productive churns led to the last score, run in by the flanker, Johnson, through a by now demoralized defence. Johnson and Joyce, at lock, went particularly well for the home side in all departments.

On this evidence—admittedly with a reserve at scrum half—it was not difficult to understand why Newport have failed to win away from home this season. So there was not much for the Welsh selector, Clive Rowlands, and the Welsh coaching organizer, John Dawes, to be excited about. Gareth Evans was muted in the Newport centre, Kevin Williams on Leicester's wing, with limited opportunities, seemed a little short of poise.

The sides were level after half an hour, Hare and Bolland having kicked a couple of penalties apiece. However, the writing was on the wall for Newport by the time Hare landed a third goal, just before the interval from just inside his own half. Two more successes for Hare in the third quarter, gave Leicester the elbow room they needed.

LEICESTER: W. Hare; K. Williams, C. Woodward, P. Dodge, T. Barnwell; L. Cusworth, S. Kenney; R. Cowling, P. Wheeler (captain), S. Redfern, N. Joyce, N. Jackson, S. Johnson, A. Collington, I. Smith.

NEWPORT: P. Rees; J. Robinson, G. Evans, P. Bolland, R. Ackerman; K. James, G. Powell; C. Smart, S. O'Donoghue, C. Badenhorst, N. Hughes, E. Waters, D. Llewellyn, C. Evans (captain), R. Powell.

Referee: R. P. Russell (London Society).

Another French league player changes codes

Limoux, Feb 15.—More fuel was added to the conflict between Rugby League and Rugby Union in France with the announcement yesterday that the international wing, Jean-Marc Gonzales, is to switch codes. Gonzales, aged 26, the leading try-scorer in French Rugby League, is to transfer from Limoux to the Rugby Union club, Carcassonne.

He is the second international in less than three months to join the ranks of the more popular Rugby Union,—following Jean-Marc Bourret's controversial move from Pia to Perpignan. Bourret's transfer angered League authorities who claimed it violated an eight-year-old agreement between the two codes

CLUB MATCHES: Bedford 4, Headingley 10; Birmingham 13, Wilmslow 8; Blackheath 14, Richmond 13; Bridgend 33, London Welsh 13; Broughton Park 32, Abertillery 4; Cambridge University 25, Wasps 35; Cardiff 26, Bristol 16; Cross Keys 27, Cheltenham 13; Darlington 25, Percy Park 18; Exeter 22, Newbridge 29; Glamorgan Wanderers 35, Clifton 9; Gloucester 15, Bath 10; Gosforth 19, Waterloo 7; Halifax 22, Birkenhead Park 13; Harrogate 12, West Hartlepool 10; Huddersfield 12, Hartlepool Rovers 6; Kersal 7, Manchester University 14; Leicester 37, Newport 6; Leigh 3, Warrington 24; Llanelli 40, Harlequins 22; London Irish 15, Liverpool 9; London Scottish 34, Coventry 12; Loughborough Colleges 9, Wakefield 10; Lymm 23, Blackburn 16; Maesteg 20, Metropolitan Police 8; Manchester 13, Rugby 7; Morley 13, Vale of Lune 6; Moseley 27, Northampton 3; Neath 3, Swansea 21; Northern 23, New Brighton 4; Nuneaton 18, Old Edwardians 0; Orrell 15, Fylde 15; Plymouth Albion 44, Streatham/Croydon 0; Pontypridd 25, Nottingham 12; Preston Grasshoppers 0, Tynedale 7; Otley 13, Durham City 8; Roundhay 39, Bradford 7; Sale 26, Rosslyn Park 3; Saracens 6, Pontypool 15; Sheffield 16; Hull and East Riding 15; Tredegar 15, Penarth 0.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Chislehurst and Sidcup GS 0, Haberdashers' Aske's Hatcham 28; Gravesend 22, Maidstone GS 3; Gunnersbury 10, St Brendan's 10; John Fisher 22, Wallington 0; Latymer Upper 64, London Oratory 7; QEH Bristol 16, Bishop Wordsworth 6; Queen Mary's, Walsall 21, King Henry VIII, Coventry 4; Redrice 25, Cricklade College 0; St George's, Harpenden 34, St Edmund's, Ware 20; Manchester GS 0, Lancaster RGS 35, West Buckland 10, St Boniface 8; Westcliff 0, Sevenoaks 76.

Students show the Army how best to advance

By Richard Streeton

The British Polytechnics XV handled with more confidence than the Army when they beat them 21—6 at Wilmslow yesterday. In spite of some heavy going, both sides tried to keep the game open but the students made fewer mistakes in the three-quarters.

By half-time the Polytechnics led 7—6, through a penalty and an unconverted try by Aitchison, a Liverpool centre, who was often prominent. The Army's try came from Lytollis and was converted by Kaged. After the interval, Smallwood, and Newcastle and Northern No 8, and Aitchison scored tries and Bennett, a Trent centre, and Aitchison kicked penalties.

Melville, the North-East London and Wasps scrum half, had a good match for the Polytechnics, two of his breaks leading to tries. It was a hard, clean game, though both teams used their two replacements after straightforward injuries. Warfield, the former England international, who played full back for the Army, retired in the first half with a knee injury.

London Irish, having beaten Liverpool 15—9 on Saturday, completed a good weekend by reaching the final of the Surrey Cup at the Old Emanuel ground, New Malden, with a 17—3 win against Esher. The Irish, who now meet Streatham-Croydon in next month's final, were held 3—3 up to half-time. Later their forward strength told and they scored tries through O'Donnell, the stand-off, Harte, a winger, and White, the tight head prop. Finn kicked a penalty and a conversion. Danford kicked Esher's penalty.

Rosslyn Park, making their first visit to Brooklands since they won a John Player Cup quarter-final there 42—12 seven years ago, were beaten 26—3 by Sale on Saturday, and were among several London clubs who made lengthy, and unrewarding journeys. In Wales alone, Llanelli beat Harlequins 40—22, Bridgend beat London Welsh 33—13, and Maesteg won 20—8 against Metropolitan Police, while not too far away, Plymouth Albion overwhelmed Streatham-Croydon 44—0.

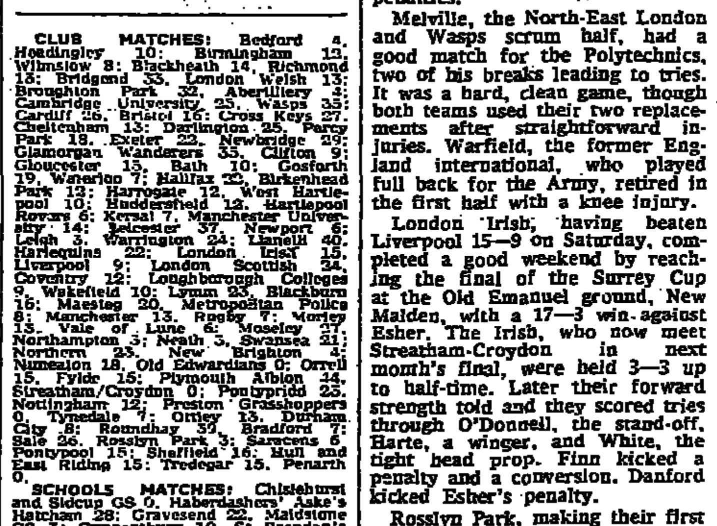
Sale's success was a happy start for Fran Cotton who, only 72 hours earlier, joined Des Seabrook for the first time in helping to coach his former club colleagues. Cotton hopes to work regularly at Sale in future with Seabrook, the Lancashire and North of England coach. Several of the hallmarks of teams coached by Seabrook could be seen in Sale's performance including good rucking, rapid passing, and swift changes of direction in attack.

Peck, playing behind a beaten pack, understandably came off second best against Smith in the struggle between the England scrum half and his former deputy. Sale's tries came from the former Northampton winger Oldham (two) Simpson, the England reserve hooker, Simon and Stansfield. Lowden converted three of them. Greenhalgh kicked a penalty for the Park.

Peck has now come through two senior matches for Rosslyn Park following his recovery from the facial injury that caused him to miss the University match, and he should soon be challenging Youngs who took his place on the England replacement bench. Youngs went off with a thigh injury early in Bedford's game with Headingley, and will report on his fitness to the England selectors today. Headingley have been having a good season as they seek to re-establish themselves in the Northern merit table, and they beat a disappointing Bedford team 10—4 with another determined and spirited effort.

OXFORDSHIRE CUP: Final: Oxford 10, Henley 6.

SURREY CUP: Semi-final round: London Irish 17, Esher 3.



Richmond fail to profit from their pressure

By Gordon Allan
Blackheath 14 Richmond 13

Richmond, who lost to Blackheath earlier in the season, should have won on pressure alone at the Rectory Field on Saturday. They led 13—8 just after half-time and spent most of the last 30 minutes inundating the Blackheath 22. So they had only themselves to blame for losing by a goal and two tries to a goal, a penalty goal and a try.

Blackheath broke out of the straitjacket once in the second half and it proved to be enough. Kibble made ground on the left wing and kicked ahead. Dick tried to steer the ball into touch but succeeded only in deflecting it back to Kibble. Lemon was inside him in support and Acott scored. Bodenham converted.

There was something freakish about that try. Dick was adjacent to the touchline and 99 times out of 100 would have put the ball out of harm's way. Blackheath's other tries owed nothing to chance. Norton, with a zig-zag run, set up the first, scored by the No 8, Taylor, and Taylor gave the ball to Bullock from a scrummage a couple of metres out for the second.

Blackheath won because they defended with determination and took their occasional scoring chances with alacrity. Slater, their erstwhile stand-off, has joined London Welsh, but Norton, who took his place, is a four-square but wily performer, and it was his kicking, as much as any other factor, that frustrated Richmond. He limped off shortly before the end.

Richmond won the ball so often that they ought to have had more than two tries. Lambert scored both, one on each wing. Whitehead kicked ahead, regained the ball, and transferred it to Lambert for the first. A chip to the corner by Trevyan led to the second. Lambert limped off at the same time as Norton. Pritchard kicked a conversion and Preston a penalty.

BLACKHEATH: I. Williamson; N. Clarke, C. Harvey, R. Bodenham, C. Kibble; P. Norton (rep R. Aitken), Bullock; R. Sellars, A. Wolstenholme, R. French, F. McCarthy, M. Wilson, M. Lemon, J. Taylor, K. Acott.

RICHMOND: M. Dick; C. Lambert (rep M. Yeomans), J. McKenzie, R. Trevyan, N. Whitehead; N. Preston, C. Pritchard; A. Shortland, P. Gibson, J. Horn, M. Hess, M. Slagter, J. Fenlon, Hughes, C. Sharp.

Referee: P. Kingham (London).

Bristol find a Merlin barring their way

By David Hands
Cardiff 26 Bristol 16

The Bristol selectors might have felt like a collection of conjurers during the first half hour of Saturday's match at the Arms Park. Their permutation of players had produced the requisite white rabbits in the shape of tries from Lane and Pomphrey and their side more than justified a three point lead.

Then the cloak of the Cardiff back row and the local Merlin, Gareth Davies, shattered their illusions of registering only the third double in the 93-year history of the fixture. Bristol's view of the ball became that of interested spectators as their hosts waved their wand and moved away to win by a goal, two tries, and four penalty goals to two goals and a try.

The bare scoreline indicates plainly that kicking was the difference in points between the sides and Bristol will be regretting the rash of foolish penalties—all for offside against either Fry or Polledri—which enabled Davies to kick four goals in the first 33 minutes. But the basic difference ran deeper than that. Cardiff had Davies (even if Wales do not require his services) fit again after his unhappy match at Murrayfield and taking on the opposition; the passing of their backs was swift and sure and they oozed speed on both wings.

Above all, Cardiff had the contrasting and complementary skills of Scott, their captain, Lakin and Lease. All three were outstanding and ensured that, for long periods, Bristol were completely denied possession. The loss of Troughton at half-time after a bang on the head and the reduced effectiveness of Polledri for the same reason added to West Country woes and though Cardiff's higher standard only appeared fitfully, it put them beyond Bristol's reach.

Davies's first two penalties were cancelled out by Lane's try, a splendid effort, which followed a switch between Morley and Polledri. Pomphrey charged over from a tapped penalty and Gorvett converted twice, but Davies kicked two more penalties before Cardiff surged into life. They began to move the ball wide and after a glorious series of switches and rucks, Yeandle crossed for their first try. Scott's pick up at the base of a scrummage helped put Evans over in the other corner, the conversion taking Davies to 200 points for his club this season.

Five minutes after the interval Phillips was trundled over by his pack from a tapped penalty, at which point Cardiff felt they had done enough. Yeandle put in a magnificent saving tackle on Lane but Harding nipped through for a well deserved try. Still, the ten point cushion was sufficient to encourage Cardiff to unveil a move inspired by their coach, John Ryan, and new at any rate to me: the backs lined up in a crocodile directly behind a scrum, concealing the intended direction of attack. The ball won, one man ran left, the others fanned out right and it is to Bristol's credit that they arrived in sufficient numbers to bottle up the ploy.

CARDIFF: R. Williams, S. Evans, D. Burcher, D. Barry, A. Yeandle, G. Davies, T. Loe, J. Whitefoot, A. Phillips, J. Dixon, R. Norster, A. Mogridge, R. Lakin, J. Scott (captain), B. Lease.

BRISTOL: P. Cue, J. Lane, A. Rees, A. Morley (captain), R. Carter, D. Sorrell, R. Harding, M. Fry, J. Tasker, A. Sheppard, N. Pomphrey, A. Troughton (replacement C. Polland), M. Baker, S. Gorvett, P. Polledri.

Referee: W. D. Bevan (Swansea).

Dods opens door to the championship

By Iain Mackenzie
Hawick 8 Gala 10

A try in the fifth minute of injury time at Mansfield Park on Saturday gave Gala two invaluable points in their campaign to retain the National League title. With a home match against Kelso on February 28 and a final one at Langholm in mid-March, Gala seem certain to repeat last season's success. Only Heriot's are within striking distance and the Edinburgh club are two league points behind and have a poorer points difference.

Coincidentally in the Border League, Kelso lead the table by four points, but Gala have played three games fewer. Should Kelso produce a surprise at Netherdale where points will again be at stake in both competitions (a recent meeting ended in a 10—10 draw) Gala may have a struggle on their hands. However, they can hardly fail to win against Langholm, who have lost every national league game so far.

A different result at Hawick would have thrown the league wide open but when the full back Peter Dods went through a gap to score Gala's only try right at the end he opened the way for the club to become the first to retain the Scottish championship, Hawick apart, since Heriot's did it in 1929.

Gala were leading rather unsatisfactorily by a dropped goal and a penalty goal, both from Brown, to a try by Taylor when 80 minutes had elapsed. Then for the second time Hawick cracked the Gala defence like a peapod and Mitchell achieved down the left wing what Taylor had done on the right. A burst of speed took him through to the line and Hawick were deservedly 8—6 ahead. With three minutes of injury time played Dods tried a penalty kick from 35 metres after Hawick forwards went over the top at a ruck. The ball swerved past but Mr Hosie kept the game going and Gala came through again for a try.

The Scottish selectors were present in force to look closely at Gala's lock, Smith, and their flanker, Dickson. Dickson played against France, a match Smith missed because of injury in the dying moments of the trial, but was dropped to the replacements' bench for the game with Wales. When they announced the side to play England on Saturday the selectors left one vacancy on the bench; it had to go to Smith or Dickson and yesterday, after a squad practice at Murrayfield, Smith got the vote.

HAWICK: J. Hogg; A. Taylor, J. Renwick (capt), A. Cranston, K. Mitchell; K. Murray, D. Whillans; N. Webb, C. Deans, T. Froud, A. Campbell, A. Tomes, R. Murray, C. Hegarty, P. Hogarth.

GALA: P. Dods; D. Ledingham, G. Halliday, L. Roy, V. Chlebowski; A. Brown, D. Millar; J. Aitken (capt), K. Lawrie, R. Cunningham, T. Smith, K. Macauley, J. Berthinussen, C. Dickson, D. Leslie.

Referee: A. Hosie (Glasgow).

SCOTTISH FIRST DIVISION: Hawick 8, Gala 10; Heriot's FP 34, Watsonians 3; Kelso 33, Langholm 6; Melrose 3, Boroughmuir 0; Stewarts/Mel FP 16, Kilmarnock 11; West of Scotland 24, Gordonians 21.

Waterloo need more than enthusiasm

By Steve Elliott
Gosforth 19 Waterloo 7

Waterloo met their Gosforth at the Great North Road ground in a hard, bruising contest that demonstrated a meticulous organization and forward power in the winners, which may carry them to further triumphs this spring. This victory by Gosforth over the only other northern side in possession of a 100 per cent merit table record represents an interesting preview of their second and perhaps more crucial encounter with Waterloo at Blundellsands in the John Player Cup on February 28.

Gosforth's command over spirited but limited opposition on Saturday suggested strongly that ground advantage would be insufficient to reverse the result

Waterloo never capitulated but they expended so much energy in the first half staying alive that it was clear by the interval that only one side could win, if necessary by penalties alone; penalties (two for Gosforth, kicked by Patrick almost from halfway and Johnson and by Cotter for the losers) were all we saw until 13 minutes into the second half.

Gosforth's first handling attempt had cost them 40 yards conceded to Waterloo's lively back row but several times thereafter Breakey had used McDowell on decoy runs which had bewildered Waterloo's midfield defence; suddenly he did what he had threatened to do and, having taken Breakey's neatly slipped scissors pass, McDowell showed a fine turn of speed to lose Waterloo's cover and score but too wide out on the right for conversion.

That excellent full back, Patrick, began to come into the line and Waterloo's problems proliferated. Pressure did not mean tries but it did mean points in the shape of three penalties (from Johnson 2, and Young) although Waterloo added a hint of respectability to the scoreline with an interception and try by Hill in injury time.

GOSFORTH: B. Patrick; S. Archer, N. McDowell, R. Breakey, S. Gustard; D. Johnson, M. Young; C. White (capt), R. Cunningham, J. Bell, T. Roberts, S. Bainbridge, I. Richardson, R. Anderson, J. Butler.

WATERLOO: J. Tickle; N. Spaven, S. Christopherson, M. Cotter, M. Flett; A. Hill, D. Carfoot; M. Connor, J. Chappell, M. Cain, J. Syddall, N. Wilkinson, G. Hay, J. Bartlett, L. Connor (capt).

Referee: D. Wilson (Yorkshire Society).

Squash rackets

Mrs Brown hopes for a storybook ending

By Rex Bellamy
Squash Rackets Correspondent

Jahangir Khan and Gamal Awad contest the men's final of the Prodorite Tournament at Edgbaston this evening. That is not surprising. Nor is the fact that Vicki Hoffmann, the British Open champion and Australian No 1, defends the women's title. The startling feature of the programme is that Miss Hoffmann's opponent will be Elizabeth Brown, who is listed only 15th in Britain.

In consecutive matches Mrs Brown has beaten Susanne King, Rhonda Thorne and Rae Anderson—respectively third, second and sixth in the Australian rankings. Beating one of these might have been an acceptable if surprising departure from the norm. Beating two is cheeky. Beating three was the stuff from which schoolgirls' fiction is made. Is it conceivable that Mrs Brown could satisfy the conventions by composing a last chapter encompassing the downfall of the best player in the world?

Mrs Brown, aged 22, played tennis for Sussex until, last year, she decided to concentrate on competitive squash. This was all the easier because she and her husband manage the Wolverhampton club and he can look after the coaching. Strikingly well built, she has a wealth of shots and a boldly imaginative knack of choosing the right one. Yesterday nothing was more impressive than her volleying touch and, whenever she was under pressure, her deft resilience in controlling the racket head to devise a searching response. She put all the pieces together with such astute and slick precision that Miss Anderson was beaten in only 26 minutes.

This, mind you, was one of three matches in which the more severe shot-makers were flattered by unusually cool conditions that kept the ball low and produced short points rather than patterned rallying. The heating was adjusted for the last match, in which Jahangir weathered a briefly threatening display of nick play by Steven Bowditch—a dreamer who tends to drift into his matches as if contemplating nothing more urgent than the eternal verities. Bowditch is always genially imaginative and when his dazzling gifts burst into flower he can bemuse even such a potentially great player as Jahangir.

In the other samples of what might be described as refrigerated squash, Miss Hoffman beat Jayne Ashton and Awad defeated Gawain Briars.

RESULTS: Semi-final round: Men: Jahangir Khan (Pakistan) beat S. Bowditch (Australia), 9—1, 10—8, 9—5; G. Awad (Egypt) beat G. Briars (GB) 9—6, 9—6, 9—6. Women: Miss V. Hoffman (Australia) beat Miss J. Ashton (GB) 9—0, 3—9, 9—5, 9—6; Mrs E. Brown (GB) beat Miss R. Anderson (Australia) 9—5, 9—2, 9—3.

Yates wins Dutch title

Rotterdam, Feb 15.—Nick Yates, of England, surprisingly won the men's singles title at the Dutch Open badminton championships here today. He beat Indonesia's Kariaho—ranked among the top 10 in the world—15—10, 15—7. The women' crown went to Lene Köppen, of Denmark. She beat Jane Webster, of England, 11—3, 11—3.

OTHER RESULTS: Men's doubles: W. Gilliland and D. Travers (GB) beat M. Tredgett and A. Goode (GB), 18—5, 18—8. Women's doubles: G. Gilks and P. Kilvington (GB) beat J. Webster and N. Perry (GB), 15—7, 15—8. Mixed doubles: Ms Gilks and T. Kihlstrom (Denmark) beat M. Tredgett and Ms Perry, 15—2, 15—6.

Table tennis

Miss Knight may just clinch England place

From a Special Correspondent

The English Open champion, Desmond Douglas's 21—9, 21—18, 21—12 win over the European champion, John Hilton and Jill Hammersley's 21—16, 17—21, 21—19, 21—13 win over reigning champion, Carole Knight were finals steeped in significance in the Norwich Union English championships at Gillingham on Saturday, significance beyond the celebration of Mrs Hammersley's record of seven titles, and Douglas's fourth.

Douglas, 25, and streets ahead of any other English player, should also before long achieve the record, standing at six and held by Denis Neale, who retired three days before the event. But more important was that the final indicated some signs of regeneration for the battered ego of Hilton after 18 defeats in a month. He did well to struggle past the England No. 4 and 5, Douggie Johnson and Bob Potton, both of whom have often beaten him in the past, and played with renewed spirit to lead Douglas 17—11 in the second game.

Both finalists rushed away to play in the German Bundesliga immediately afterwards. No let up in the gruelling routine, but from today Hilton plans 10 days complete rest. Wonderful news for England it will be if they have the desired effect.

The women's final was bound to be newsworthy whatever the result. Last year Mrs Hammersley, shortly after her domestic difficulties (and also after one of her European top 12 successes) lost her title to Miss Knight. This year Miss Knight, unluckily unseeded and struggling for the one remaining women's place in the world squad, battled to the final saving a match point on the way, and lost to Mrs Hammersley.

The unassuming Mrs Hammersley received by far the day's biggest ovation for that. Eight months retirement has left her fresher and playing better than ever, which is probably better than any of the past greats, Mary Wright, the previous record holder, Diane Rowe and Ann Haydon included. "The game has speeded up and they didn't have the different rubbers to cope with then" she said afterwards. The subtleties of her combination bat and manoeuvrability in defence might well have bamboozled them all.

Miss Knight, meanwhile, must wait until next Monday to see if she is in the world squad but she feels she should have done just enough to get the vote, leading Mrs Hammersley by five points at one stage in the crucial third game. Bob Potton, the England No. 5, vying for the last two men's places heard he had been brought into the squad for the Czechoslovak Open in place of a tired Douglas. So England's two most controversial and talented contenders may make it to Novi Sad after all.

MEN'S SINGLES: D. Douglas beat J. Hilton, 21—9, 21—18, 21—12.

MEN'S DOUBLES: Douglas and P. Day beat D. Johnson and D. Barr, 21—18, 21—12, 6—21, 21—12.

WOMEN'S SINGLES: Mrs J. Hammersley beat Miss C. Knight, 21—16, 17—21, 21—19, 21—13.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES: Mrs Hammersley and Mrs L. Jarvis beat Miss A. Stevenson and Miss Knight, 21—16, 21—13, 18—21, 9—21, 21—17.

Cross-country

Standing will sit and wait for a national success

By Paul Harrison

Peter Standing, who admits to impatience, ran a disciplined race on Saturday to take the Brooks Southern Counties cross-country title for the second time in 10 years, over the grass of Trent Park, North London. Standing, a 30-year-old landscape gardener from Cranleigh, Surrey, found the firm going to his liking on a bright dry afternoon that might have been made for the sport. Nick Brawn, from Canterbury, the universities champion, made his effort early, but on the second lap Standing caught him and then knew he had the race where he wanted it.

By the end he was lapping some of the 1,000 plus entrants and came home in 45min 1sec, with Brawn second in 45: 05 and Kevin Steere, 45: 21, third. Brawn at least had the consolation of revenge over Steere who had won the Kent championship. Standing, of the Windsor, Slough and Eton club, said afterwards that he would probably have one more race—the Hillingdon 5—and then go for the national cross-country championship at Parliament Hill Fields on March 7. He rates his chances as "good—as long as I keep my head. I usually blow up" and knows impatience will be his biggest enemy in the national, if he is to come anywhere near his previous best in the event, fourth in 1974.

Another dominating performance came from Jonathan Richards, a 16-year-old from Camborne in Cornwall, who won the youths race over four miles in 21 :17, a clear minute ahead of the second placed runner. Richards the inter-counties champion has re[illegible] promise. In the past month he [illegible] raced twice abroad, winning [illegible] Paris with the English schoo[illegible] team and in Barcelona, in a juni[illegible] cross-country event.

Generally it was a good day f[illegible] Kentish men: Brawn and Stee[illegible] in the seniors: Ian Stewart, [illegible] student at the University of Ken[illegible] winning the juniors race in 31 :04; Elliott AC the youths team title and Tonbridge AC the boys title. Aldershot, Farnham and District, however, packed the better to retain the senior team trophy.

With more than 3,000 hungry athletes roaming around it was a piece of inspired advertising to provide free soup from a "souper-van". The name of the providers need not remain a secret: suffice it to say they have 57 varieties and their tomato soup is really quite excellent. Particularly when free.

SOUTHERN (9 miles, Cockfosters): 1. P. Standing (Windsor) 45 min 1 sec; 2. N. Brawn (Invicta), 45:5; 3. K. Steere (Ilford), 45:21; 4. M. Grafton (Invicta), 45:34; 5. R. Treadwell (Surrey Beagles), 45:38; 6. R. Swann (Basingstoke), 45:45. Team: 1. Aldershot, 203 pts; 2. Thames Valley 210; 3. Invicta, 210.

NORTHERN (7½ miles, Beverley): 1. C. Garforth (Gateshead), 37:24; 2. K. Forster (Saltwell), 37:31; 3. G. Ellis (Holmfirth), 37:39; 4. J. Woods (Liverpool H), 37:49; 5. T. Fieldsend (Sheffield AC), 37:49; 6. G. Helme (St Albans), 37:51. Team: 1. Gateshead, 81; 2. Salford, 201; 3. Manchester, 220.

MIDLANDS (8 miles, Brockworth, Gloucestershire): 1. G. Harvey (Staffs Moorlands), 39:37; 2. C. Buckley (Westbury), 39:41; 3. T. Milovsorov (Birmingham Univ), 39:49; 4. A. Rushmer (Tipton H), 40:5; 5. A. Armitage (Charnwood H), 40:8; 6. P. Westwood (Tipton), 40:15. Team: 1. Tipton, 68 pts; 2. Staffordshire Moorlands, 108; 3. Westbury, 126.

Skiing



Skiing to victory : Phil Mahre of the United States winning the slalom in Sweden yesterday.

Stenmark's single mistake lets in Mahre

Aare, Sweden, Feb 15.—Phil Mahre, the American, produced a magnificent second run to win a World Cup slalom event today, edging Ingemar Stenmark, the home idol, out of first place by 3/100ths of a second.

Mahre had an aggregate time for the two runs over 537 metres of one minute 34.36 seconds and Stenmark finished on 1 :34.39. The Austrian Franz Gruber, who took a surprising second place after the first run, kept his nerves under control to finish third in 1 :34.51. Stenmark, winner of the giant slalom here yesterday, held a narrow lead over Mahre after the first run, but made a single mistake halfway down the 56-gate second run that cost the double Olympic champion a vital fraction of a second.

Mahre's victory, his first since 1979, cut his deficit in the World Cup overall standings to 41. He now has 219 points to Stenmark's 260 and has several chances left to exceed the Swede's maximum of 265 points, for which Stenmark has to win one of the remaining two slalom events.

Mahre said: "When I stood in the starting gate and heard the crowd cheer Ingemar as the winner it made me angry. Anything he can do I can do also. I won the race at the gate where my brother Steve fell. Steve and I think very much the same and he told me what to look out for. Stenmark had problems in that particular gate as well."

Stenmark said: "It will not be enough now for me to beat Phil in the remaining races. I also need help from other racers to move him down the result lists."

The only skier with a chance of denying Stenmark his fourth overall world cup title, Mahre had recorded the fastest time of the day in Saturday's giant slalom. He swept down the 62-gate second leg, covering the 1,310 metres, spanning a vertical drop of 395 metres, in 1 :18.65. He eventually finished third, behind Stenmark whose success enabled the Swede to equal the record of 62 World Cup victories held by Anne-Marie Proell of Austria. Stenmark, whose victory was his sixth in seven giant slaloms this season, recorded the fastest time in the first leg, one minute 22.21 seconds, and the third best time in the second, 1 :18.75, for an aggregate time of two minutes 40.96 seconds. It put him almost a second and a half ahead of Alexander Zhirov of the Soviet Union, who was second with 2 :42.43.

Coincidentally Stenmark and Zhirov took the first two places in a giant slalom event at Voss, western Norway, last Wednesday

The Italian Bruno Noeckler, who was second after the first leg, attacked too hard in a vain attempt to win back the 7/10ths of a second by which he trailed Stenmark and fell at the fourth gate on the second run.

LEADING PLACINGS (Saturday): 1. Stenmark (Sweden), 2:40.96 (1:22.21/1:18.75); 2. A. Zhirov (Soviet Union), 2:42.45 (1:23.70/1:18.75); 3. P. Mahre (US), 2:42.84 (1:24.19/1:18.66); 4. J. Fournier (Switzerland), 2:43.80 (1:24.23/1:19.57); 5. J. Luethy (Switzerland), 2:44.31 (1:24.40/1:19.91); 6. O. Soerli (Norway), 2:44.80 (1:25.09/1:19.71). Sunday: 1. Mahre, 1:34.36 (49.52/44.84); 2. Stenmark 1:34.39 (49.51/44.88); 3. F. Gruber (Austria), 1:34.51 (48.95/45.56); 4. B. Fjaellberg (Sweden), 1:34.77 (49.31/45.46); 5. P. Cros (Italy), 1:34.83 (39.60/45.28); 6. V. Andreev (Soviet Union), 1:34.92 (48.94/45.98).

SLALOM STANDINGS: 1. Stenmark 120 points; 2. P. Frommelt (Liechtenstein) 77; 3. P. Mahre 75; 4. B. Krizaj (Yugoslavia) 64; 5. Andreev 62; 6. S. Mahre (US) 59.

OVERALL STANDINGS: 1. I. Stenmark 260 points; 2. Phil Mahre 219; 3. Peter Mueller (Austria) 140; 4. Alexander Zhirov (Soviet Union) 117; 5. S. Mahre 112; 6. Krizaj 111; 7. S. Podborski (Canada), H. Weirather (Austria), C. Orlainsky, A. Wenzel (Liechtenstein) 105. British placings: 56, M. Bell 3:01.57; 58, D. Mercer 3:06.51.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Off piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm) —	°C
Andermatt	150	350	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine	-6
Spring snow on south slopes							
Mürren	175	420	Good	Heavy	Good	Fine	-1
Good skiing on upper slopes							
St Anton	110	500	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	-4
Powder on north-facing slopes							
Tignes	180	280	Firm	Crust	Good	Fine	-1
Good skiing everywhere							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following report comes from another source:

SCOTLAND: Cairngorm: Main runs—only one high level run complete. New snow on a firm base. Lower slopes—very little or no snow. Vertical runs—600ft: access roads clear: Snow level—2,800 ft Glen Shee: No snow. Glencoe: Main runs—most runs complete. New snow on a hard base. Lower slopes—no snow. Vertical runs—900 ft: Access roads clear: Snow level—2,700 ft. Lecht: Main runs—a few runs complete but narrow. Wet snow. Lower slopes—no snow. Vertical runs—100 ft: access roads clear: Snow level—2,000 ft.

SPORT

Football

Why Southampton will like wide open spaces of Goodison

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

Southampton 0 Everton 0

By attempting part of a lap of honour after a disorderly goalless draw at The Dell on Saturday, Everton's goalkeeper, McDonagh, who had done as much as anyone to determine the result, revealed a lot about the causes of potentially the best FA Cup fifth round tie becoming irritable and unattractive.

"Everton were delighted with the result that gave them a replay at Goodison Park tomorrow. They should have won in the last few minutes when Varadi struck a shot too close to Wells, but that only showed how distant Southampton were from the irrepressible form that had given them 13 consecutive victories. Credit to Everton, of course, yet not inordinate because they were often equally guilty of careless and irascible football.

In a tight, though sometimes audacious, defence, Lyons, Wright and Bailey were solid while Ratcliffe enjoyed some freedom to provoke counter-attacks which caught Southampton looking pedestrian in the middle of their own defence and lacking an accurate, intercepting midfield tackler. Meanwhile, Gidman shadowed Keegan so intimately that one trusted the somewhat despondent England captain had splashed himself all over with one of the products he advertises.

In both halves Southampton defenders were scattered by counter attacks that were better conceived than their own more frequent efforts. Not that Everton's finishing inspired serious thoughts of victory. Even when they had three men against Holmes and Wells they wasted their first tempting opportunity.

Holmes, by a considerable margin Southampton's most effective and attentive player, turned Ratcliffe's shot away from danger. Lyons, supporting another counter attack that brought a corner, was then allowed time to head wide of a post and Varadi always yards too quick for Watson, did not have the confidence to keep running when openly invited to outsprint the entire Southampton defence.

George began promisingly and extracted from McDonagh a splendid save, low in the corner from a shot that hardly left the ground, but he failed to be encouraged and in the second half gave up an attacking position to allow Keegan to go forward with marginally better effect. Keegan's delicate back-heeled pass across the goal mouth deserved better finishing than that seen from Nicholl and the error would have been the cause of greater anguish if Varadi had succeeded with his last shot of the game, one that on a less agitated occasion he would probably have taken in his purposeful stride.

Everton's satisfaction, despite their missed chances, was easily appreciated but whether entirely justified on the basis of Southampton's real potential is another matter. Although they have terminated the Cup hopes of Arsenal and Liverpool at Goodison this season, they may find that in attacking with more commitment they offer space for Southampton. Also, Baker should be fit to give Southampton midfield strength and on Merseyside Keegan will want to impress more than he did in this disappointing if spicy tie.

SOUTHAMPTON: P. Wells; I. Golac, M. Waldron, S. Williams, D. Watson, C. Nicholl, K. Keegan, M. Channon, C. George, S. Moran (T. Hebberd), N. Holmes.

EVERTON: J. McDonagh; K. Ratcliffe, J. Bailey, W. Wright, M. Lyons, J. Gidman, T. Ross, P. Eastoe, I. Varadi, A. Hartford, E. O'Keefe.

Referee: P. Partridge (Cockfield).

Spurs gain more converts

By Vince Wright

Tottenham 3 Coventry 1

Elimination from the FA Cup by Tottenham Hotspur completed a miserable week for the youngsters of Coventry City. Deprived of a place in the League Cup final by West Ham United last Tuesday, they seldom looked like making amends in a fifth round tie which resembled the curate's egg—good and bad in parts.

Coventry could not get the West Ham defeat out of their system. Their lack of confidence and enterprise enabled Tottenham to spray the ball around in their usual slick fashion. Even when Tottenham lost possession Coventry's passing was so sloppy that they regained it almost instantly. Tottenham were also encouraged by Coventry's fallibility in defence

Tottenham's belief that they will soon lift a trophy is gaining new converts. They are an excellent cup team and their style is particularly suited to this competition. As well as talented players, Tottenham have luck on their side. In 10 cup matches this season they have not had to travel outside London. Perhaps more to the point Tottenham are a team in form, being unbeaten in their last 10 games, and with their habit of winning something at the start of a decade it is tempting to think they can reach Wembley.

Hoddle, who was passed fit only on Saturday morning, was at his delightful best, bemusing Coventry with his remarkable vision and flair for the unexpected. The deft touches of Ardiles and the bustle and energy of Perryman strengthened Tottenham's hand in midfield. In attack Crooks was more mobile than Thompson or English and Galvin ran faster and farther than any Coventry player.

Ardiles capitalized on an atrocious back pass from Dyson to put Tottenham ahead. For Tottenham's second goal after 32 minutes Sealey stood rooted to his line as Lacy's lob dropped into the six-yard box and Archibald volleyed in with his left foot.

When English, inexplicably unmarked, collected a rolled free kick by Daly and beat Daines just before half-time Coventry had an unexpected opportunity to save the game. But despite their second half improvement a third Tottenham goal looked more likely than a Coventry equalizer. It came when Hoddle released the full back Hughton who crowned an impressive return to first team duty with a perfect finish.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR: B. Daines; C. Hughton, P. Miller, G. Roberts, J. Lacy, S. Perryman, O. Ardiles (sub. G. Brooke), S. Archibald, A. Galvin, G. Hoddle, G. Crooks.

COVENTRY CITY: L. Sealey; D. Thomas, B. Roberts, A. Blair, P. Dyson (sub. M. Hateley), G. Gillespie, S. Jacobs, G. Daly, G. Thompson, T. English, S. Hunt.

Referee: J. Worrall (Warrington).

Two gems from Brooking

By David Powell

West Ham 4 Chelsea 0

"You saved it up for us." This was the compliment from Geoff Hurst that echoed down the players' tunnel at Upton Park as Trevor Brooking brushed past the Chelsea manager. With a smile of satisfaction, the scorer of two goals replied: "Sorry Geoffrey" and marched towards an exit where others were waiting to add their congratulations.

When a goal of such high calibre as the one Brooking scored in the first half is observed, it is enough to leave an impression for the rest of the season; when that same player succeeds in emulating his achievement within 40 minutes, the match becomes unforgettable, even among the chronicle of highlights that West Ham United are currently recording. Brooking confessed they were the best goals he had scored

"Looking at the general attitude, we might as well have not turned up", Mr Hurst said. He also recognized the essential difference between his team and the club he used to play for. "They are successful at the moment because they are prepared to work as hard as any team in the country. They have players who would be a class above the rest in the first division."

It seems certain that West Ham will have an opportunity to prove that theory. They need only 16 points from their 12 remaining league matches to make sure of promotion, although half that number would probably suffice. Statistically, Chelsea's requirement is less easily defined. However, tactically, they might assist their cause by seeking greater variety in their attacking formation. Too little use was made of Rhoades-Brown on the left wing and West Ham's defence, marshalled by Bonds, in his 500th league match for the club, easily coped with Chelsea's dashing raids down the centre of the field.

Chelsea's defence was less alert and Brooking, with pace and perception to deceive the left full back Rofe, opened the scoring with a powerful left-footed shot past Borota in the twenty-seventh minute. Early in the second half Fillery's shot, which went only a yard wide of goal, almost put a different complexion on the game before Cross volleyed West Ham two goals ahead. Brooking swept in the third goal, another curling shot but this time with his right foot, and Devonshire completed the scoring in the final minute

WEST HAM UNITED: P. Parkes; R. Stewart, F. Lampard, W. Bonds, A. Martin, A. Devonshire, J. Neighbour, P. Goddard, D. Cross, T. Brooking, G. Pike.

CHELSEA: P. Borota; G. Locke, D. Rofe, J. Bumstead, M. Droy, G. Chivers, T. Elmes (sub. P. Driver), M. Fillery, C. Lee, A. Mayes, P. Rhoades-Brown.

Referee: S. G. Bates (Bristol).

Exeter refuse to fold up tents and steal away

By a Special Correspondent

Newcastle Utd 1 Exeter City 1

Some of the mightiest sides in the land, having conceded a goal at Newcastle, have been known to fold their tents and quietly steal away, grateful that the injury they suffered was not worse. So when, 12 minutes into the second half of Saturday's fifth-round FA Cup tie at St James Park, Exeter City fell a goal behind to a neat header from Shoulder, the Newcastle substitute, the large crowd expected Exeter to do the decent thing and admit defeat.

But instead of collapsing the third division side took the fight to their second division opponents and, with admirable pluck and persistence, scored an unexpected but well-deserved equalizer four minutes from the end to earn them a replay on Wednesday at St James Park, Exeter.

Ironically, Exeter's goal was scored by the centre half, Lee Roberts, who had been preferred for this match to Giles, City's veteran defender. Giles was so upset at being dropped that he refused to join the coach taking the team to Newcastle. City's manager, Brian Godfrey, said after the match that he would deal with Giles today.

Newcastle's manager, Arthur Cox, who is effectively rebuilding the team and, perhaps even more important in the long run, creating a much happier atmosphere behind the scenes at the club, claimed that he was not too disappointed with the result.

"We had about five good chances to their two", he said. "One of ours was disallowed, another kicked off the line and their keeper made some good saves. If our finishing had been a bit more ruthless we would not be going down to Exeter for the replay."

Exeter were very nervous at times; but then when did most of the team who had spent their playing careers in the lower divisions ever have to face a fanatical crowd of nearly 38,000? Oddly, they started playing their best football only after United had taken the lead.

Although they and their small band of loyal supporters who made the long 350-mile journey to Tyneside were delighted with the result, the manager and John Delve, the team captain, were cautious about forecasting the outcome of the replay.

"I was a player under Arthur Cox when he was a coach at Aston Villa and I know how well he will prepare his team for Wednesday's match", Mr Godfrey said. And Delve, who marshalled his forces intelligently, predicted an even harder battle in the replay.

Newcastle feel quietly confident about their chances of winning at the second attempt. Just as Leicester City were in the previous round—and we all know what happened to them.

NEWCASTLE UNITED: K. Carr; S. Carney, P. Johnson, N. Walker, S. Boam, B. Halliday, R. Shinton (sub. A. Shoulder), J. Trewick, R. Clark, K. Wharton, C. Waddle.

EXETER CITY: L. Bond; M. Rogers, J. Sparrow, R. Forbes, L. Roberts, P. Roberts, I. Pearson (sub. R. Pratt), P. Rogers, A. Kellow, J. Delve, P. Hatch.

Referee: R. Bridges (Clwyd).

Liverpool's title hopes are slipping away

Liverpool's league championship crown slipped even further when they threw away a two-goal lead against Birmingham City at Anfield. Johnson and Neal had put the champions in a strong position, but Evans and Ainscow replied to rob Liverpool of a point. Liverpool's hopes of catching Ipswich Town now look forlorn. They are five points adrift of the leaders and have played two games more.

Chapman was the happiest man in the first division on Saturday for he scored three goals in one match for the second time this season to give Stoke City both points at Leeds. But the relegation fears of Norwich City and Leicester City sharply increased. Leicester, after victories over Liverpool and Manchester United, came back to earth as they lost to a Cummins goal at Sunderland while Norwich fell to goals by Regis and Owen of West Bromwich Albion.

Notts County held on to second place in the second division thanks to a goalkeeping error by Burridge at Loftus Road. He let a McCulloch shot through his hands to give County the equalizer after Howe had put Queen's Park Rangers ahead. Of the other promotion hopefuls Grimsby beat Orient to move into sixth place and Blackburn Rovers beat Derby to take over fourth spot.

The making of Lee Roberts, the breaking of Les Berry: the sweet and bitter sides of the FA Cup on Saturday. Exeter can breathe, even smile, again after Roberts (above) levelled matters at Newcastle. Charlton had nothing to offer but blood, sweat and tears as Berry's nose, and their hopes of Wembley, were broken at Ipswich.



If only Wrexham's heart were as sound as Bell's

By Clive White

Wolves 3 Wrexham 1

Broken hearts, of course, are commonplace on such a day as February 14. Had Wrexham's been in slightly better shape on Saturday there would have been some serenading in the valleys these past two evenings. As it was, Welsh interest in this year's FA Cup died somewhere around the seventieth minute at Molineux when a rather burly cupid called Bell fired two arrows straight through their heart.

Wrexham had stumbled into the lead after 29 minutes when a player called Fox thrust a header through the Wolves defence. But Wrexham's short game was ill-suited on a pitch that played awkwardly in the crisp afternoon air.

Their goal, strangely, did nothing to uplift them, though goodness knows they received enough encouragement from a Wolves back four whose contribution to positive football was via a return pass to the goalkeeper. The odd forward step invariably ended in tears and any boldness on Berry's part could be catastrophic. John Barnwell, the manager, blamed the crowd afterwards for urging his team forward. But you could see his point.

In one such period of turmoil two minutes before half-time Berry tried to beat two players in his own penalty area, lost the ball and McNeil's shot was clearly handballed by McAlle, but it passed unnoticed. The goal machine, McNeil, was again denied after an hour when his running, stooped header was pushed away by the fingertips of Bradshaw. On such finely balanced moments a match can turn. And so did this one.

Five minutes later Bell, the substitute, was summoned like a call to Superman and, buoyed by the crowd's noisy approval, he rode on air for the last 25 minutes. Everything he touched turned to old gold. When a Parkin shot was fumbled by Davies and Wrexham failed to clear completely Bell was on hand to lash in Gray's downward header.

Two minutes later a Bradshaw clearance was allowed to run on and this time Wrexham's Cegielski obligingly nodded down into Bell's lethal path. Yet Mr Barnwell would sell him today if someone came along with £400,000. Bell asked for a transfer last week.

By the eighty-eighth minute Wrexham were, disappointingly, collapsing on all fronts and Richards needed only a touch with his head to Parkin's bouncing bomb to deceive the unhappy Davies.

WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS: P. Bradshaw; G. Palmer, D. Parkin, W. Clarke, J. McAlle, G. Berry, K. Hibbitt, H. Atkinson, A. Gray, J. Richards, M. Eves (sub. N. Bell).

WREXHAM: D. Davies; A. Hill, A. Dwyer, J. Jones, W. Cegielski, I. Arkwright, S. Fox, M. Sutton, J. Edwards (sub. R. Vinter), R. McNeil, L. Cartwright.

Referee: A. Robinson (Waterlooville).

Archibald in line for Scotland place

Steve Archibald, the scorer of 22 goals for Tottenham Hotspur this season, can expect to be included in the Scotland Squad for the World Cup qualifying match in Israel on February 25 when it is named today by Jock Stein, the manager.

Mr Stein has the opportunity to pick two more of England's most consistent scorers, John Wark of Ipswich Town (28 goals) and Kenny Dalglish of Liverpool (17 goals). Among uncapped players in line for a possible call up is the Aston Villa central defender Allan Evans.

Morton pulled off the shock of defeating Aberdeen, who are currently chasing the premier league championship, for the second season in succession. Andy Ritchie was Morton's match winner with a superb effort which inflicted Aberdeen's third successive single goal defeat.

Rangers were given a fright by St Johnstone who went two down but staged a remarkable recovery to lead 3—2. Ian Redford's injury time equalizer earns Rangers a replay at Ibrox on Wednesday. Replaying tomorrow are Clydebank and Kilmarnock, who shared a goalless draw at Rugby Park.

Celtic, the holders, beat Stirling Albion 3—0, but Dundee United had to thank a late goal from David Dodds for victory against Partick Thistle.

Motherwell overcame Dumbarton 2—1 and Hibernian owed their 1—0 win against Falkirk to Ralph Callachan's 77th minute penalty. East Stirling were another first division club to reach the quarter final round, beating Cowdenbeath 2—1 at Central Park.

Darlington in their Sunday best

Darlington 2 Mansfield T 2

Sunday football was given an entertaining lift by two enterprising teams, Darlington pulling in one of their best crowds for years. The 5,932 attendance was more than double the normal Saturday League gate. The supporters were given an encouraging start when Hamilton scored from the penalty spot after 14 minutes.

Mansfield Town, who are after promotion, came back strongly with goals from Allen (30 minutes) and McClelland (47 minutes). Darlington pressed for most of the second half and two minutes from time their leading scorer, Walsh, collected his seventeenth goal

Meat and two veg served up by Ipswich

By Gerry Harrison

Ipswich 2 Charlton 0

Ipswich Town's defeat of Charlton at Portman Road on Saturday never had the makings of either a giant-killing or a massacre. What it did reveal was another of the characteristics which could help to win for Ipswich at least one of the three trophies in their sights.

Ipswich played only moderately yet they won comfortably. Without Mills and Burley at the back their balance was wrong, chances were missed and both Dutchmen looked merely useful players. The FA Cup favourites served up meat and two veg to customers growing used to having their palates seduced. Charlton worked effectively in defence yet they created not a single chance worth recalling. They often looked better than their third division status but never good enough to shock the stuttering first division leaders.

In the first half Ipswich's play was all left sided in buildup and inelegant in conclusion. While Gates and Mariner popped away at the competent Johns often enough, Thijssen and Brazil found it difficult to get into the game.

Charlton's cause was not helped when the centre-half Berry broke his nose after half an hour and was unable to continue in the second half. They reshuffled successfully using Naylor in the middle of defence although it was a couple of direct assaults through the middle which brought their undoing.

In the fifty-sixth minute Gates shot powerfully from outside the area. It rebounded off Johns's chest into the path of Wark who, with the confidence and accuracy of someone with the scoring touch, side-footed the ball in from 18 yards. Two minutes from the end, Mariner resisted Naylor's attempt to relieve him of his shirt before lobbing his shot over Johns.

In between, Charlton promised rather than threatened. Eighteen-year-old Walsh showed some nice touches up front; Walker got better and better at left-back. But Cooper, despite his tracksuit, got colder and colder in the Ipswich goal.

The main concern for Ipswich now is the fitness of Mills and Burley. Mills is expected to play tomorrow night in their fifth consecutive home game—against Middlesbrough, although Mariner is doubtful with a foot injury.

IPSWICH: P. Cooper; R. Osman, T. Butcher, K. Beattie, S. McCall, F. Thijssen, J. Wark, A. Muhren, A. Brazil, E. Gates, P. Mariner.

CHARLTON ATHLETIC: N. Johns; T. Naylor, L. Berry (sub K. Smith), P. Warman, C. Powell, R. Tydeman, P. Walker, M. Robinson, D. Hales, P. Walsh.

Referee: P. Reeves (Leicester).

Greece in mourning

Athens, Feb 15.—Greek first division football was cancelled today as a token of mourning for the 19 killed and more than 50 injured in a stampede after the Olympiakos-AEK match in Piraeus last week.

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated.

FOURTH DIVISION: Stockport County v Torquay United.

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Altrincham v Bangor City; Nuneaton Borough v Maidstone United.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Kidderminster Harriers v Enderby Town.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Harrow Borough v Hitchin Town. First division: Wokingham Town v Camberley.

Indefatigable Forest have the last word

By Nicholas Harling

Nottingham F 2 Bristol City 1

The temptation, of course, was to interpret Nottingham Forest's close shave and every lapse that contributed to it as symptoms of their midweek return trip to Tokyo. Peter Taylor, their assistant manager, would have none of it. He was in no doubt that Bristol City and not jet lag had caused them their anxiety.

"I've heard that much about jet lag in the past week, I don't want to hear any more", Mr Taylor said after Forest had scored twice in the last seven minutes to leave those who had questioned the timing of such an excursion to the World Club Championship match with their criticisms hanging in the air.

Once again Mr Taylor and his partner, Brian Clough, had provided the last word, or at least their team had, even if the manner of their FA Cup fifth round victory was cruel in the extreme on City, who can have come no closer to winning an away match in the past 10 months. If City disputed the legality of the penalty, which was the beginning of the end of their hopes, television did at least later confirm that the referee had made the correct decision when the otherwise sound 18-year-old Marshall bumped into Walsh.

The double irony of Forest's supposed fatigue was that they seemed to look more laboured in the first half than in the second and that City's tactics did, if anything, contrive to leave them with more running to do. By stringing four players across midfield, the second division club had forced Forest to play laterally, a task to which they responded so admirably, Walsh and Frank Gray in particular, that the policy eventually rebounded on City.

"Forest changed the direction of their attack so well that it caused us a lot of hard work", City's manager, Bob Houghton said. "We were forced to keep pushing over and back so much that it took its toll in the last 20 minutes."

For Mr Houghton there was a certain familiarity about the result. Beaten by Mr Clough at squash before Forest administered a similar defeat to the team he managed, Malmoe, in the European Cup final two years ago, here he was again on the side of the vanquished.

Moller, his goalkeeper on that occasion in Munich, again stood between his side and a far more convincing win by Forest. The Swede made the catching of high centres seem an art and his omnipresent frame was also safely behind shots from the so willing Francis, Walsh and Wallace before Robertson's penalty got the better of him. Moller had as little chance with the untidy match-winner from Wallace, who got the ball only because Gunn's slashed shot became a perfect through pass.

By comparison, the fortieth minute goal created by Mann and Whitehead for Mabbutt, which almost took City through, was an intentional creation. Unfortunately for City, Pritchard and Whitehead did not possess the same composure when it came to opportunism, or they might after all have made Forest rue their trip to Japan.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST: P. Shilton; V. Anderson, F. Gray, S. Gray, K. Burns, B. Gunn, G. Mills, T. Francis, I. Wallace, C. Walsh, J. Robertson.

BRISTOL CITY: J. Moller; P. Stevens, G. Sweeney, P. Aitken, J. Marshall, A. Nicholls, T. Tainton, J. Mann, K. Mabbutt, R. Pritchard, C. Whitehead.

Referee: K. Walmsley (Blackpool).

Barnsley the pride of south Yorkshire despite defeat

By Martin Tyler

Middlesbrough 2 Barnsley 1

Barnsley's Mike Lester had his tongue in his cheek, but only slightly, when asked about Middlesbrough's prospects of winning the FA Cup for the first time. "If they can beat us, they can beat anybody", he said. The midfield player's goal of first division quality had inspired his third division colleagues to narrow a considerable gap in league status.

Middlesbrough lived up to their billing for only the first 24 minutes, in which they struck twice. Proctor shot cleanly from 12 yards via the inside of New's right hand post to dispense an early medication, it seemed, for any symptoms of an upset. Then, Jankovic prodded in a second after headed passes from Ashcroft and Armstrong had bisected some sketchy defending. Between the two goals Hodgson and Ashcroft both planted the ball against the same spot on the crossbar.

Those who sat back and waited for the formalities to be completed included a number on the field, even though in between the disasters at their own end Barnsley had attacked with sufficient vigour to offer some hope to the 12,000 followers from south Yorkshire. But now inspiration, rather than effort, was desperately required and Lester produced it, arrowing a sweet volley from outside the penalty area past an unsighted goalkeeper.

For the remaining 62 minutes, however, Platt stood as this tie's most decisive figure. His was not the kind of performance that called for a string of spectacular saves; Middlesbrough defend collectively too grudgingly to be totally exposed, but Platt displayed a calmness and a sound technique that became crucial in dealing with Barnsley's territorial supremacy.

Glavin, Banks and Lester cleverly varied their approach from midfield while Downes stretched Middlesbrough so far on their left in the second half that Armstrong was forced to operate exclusively as an auxiliary defender. Only Cochrane, who taunted Chambers into persistent infringements that earned Barnsley's captain a caution, offered the first division side a route towards easing their anxieties.

During a finale in the best of cup tie traditions, Platt thwarted Lester's attempt to mirror his goal, and then the Northern Ireland international positioned himself perfectly to prevent Glavin shooting inside his near post. The goalkeeper reaffirmed his importance by grasping safely a header from Aylott right on the goal line in injury time. Long before that, Middlesbrough's blushing supporters had been screaming for the final whistle.

MIDDLESBROUGH: J. Platt; I. Nattrass, I. Bailey, C. Johnston, W. Ashcroft, A. McAndrew, T. Cochrane, M. Proctor, D. Hodgson, B. Jankovic, D. Armstrong.

BARNSLEY: M. New; J. Joyce, P. Chambers, R. Glavin, I. Banks, M. McCarthy, I. Cooper, G. Riley, T. Aylott, M. Lester, R. Downes.

Referee: J. Hunting (Leicester).

Walking over one's buddies to Wembley

By Stuart Jones

Peterborough U 0 Manchester C 1

It has been an unfortunate journey so far for John Bond. On his way to Wembley he has had to push aside his friend, Malcolm Allison, his former assistant, Ken Brown, and now a former employee, Peter Morris, as well as his own son. He can relax, though, during today's FA Cup draw: there are no past associates among the remaining nine managers.

To balance the misfortune, his Manchester City side have an ounce or two of luck in their pockets. They needed it at London Road on Saturday. Spectators clinging to the pylons were warned that they might receive the biggest shock of their lives when the floodlights were switched on at half-time, but Gynn threatened to bring it forward by 45 minutes, almost scoring from the kick-off.

As if homing in on the sound of their supporters, Peterborough United pressed forward throughout the rest of the half. Although the veteran Robson was the main supplier from the right, and Cooke and Kellock twice fired wide from close range, Corrigan's worst moment was when Reid back-passed.

Peterborough's promise lay in two midfield men who sound like misprints: Gynn, who rivals Flynn as being the smallest player in the League, and Quow, once of the England Youth team. At the back they had Slack, who belied his name and showed why Tottenham Hotspur have been up to watch him this season.

It was a moment of slackness, though, that cost them the tie. Minutes before the interval Hutchison's corner bobbled up, down and round the six-yard area before Booth stepped in to fire the ball home. Once ahead, City settled into the groove as easily as the record that got stuck before the game.

Peterborough still moved towards the home crowd but this time it was backward as Hutchison began to take control. Yet, for all City's pressure, Waugh remained largely untroubled. His worst moment was when McKenzie broke through, only to fire over towards the distant sunlit cathedral.

Peterborough at least have something to show for their Cup run, 12-foot steel fences at both ends of the ground; unfortunately, they proved ineffective. As a policeman, chasing one of the trespassers, lost his helmet, Corrigan, trotting by, stopped and, with accustomed ease, used his long arms to catch it.

PETERBOROUGH UNITED: K. Waugh; D. McVay, I. Phillips (sub. D. Syrett), M. Gynn, T. Slack, A. Slough, T. Quow, W. Kellock, R. Cooke, G. Hodgson, T. Robson.

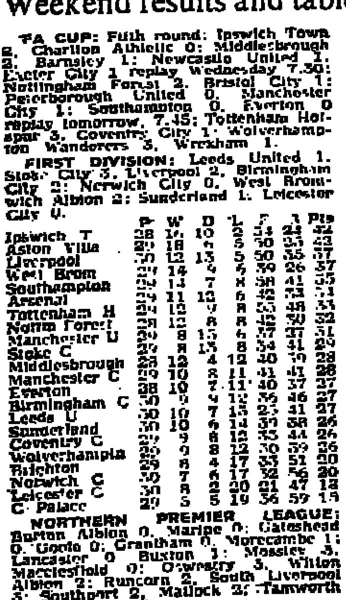
MANCHESTER CITY: J. Corrigan; A. Henry, B. McDonald, N. Reid, P. Power, T. Booth, D. Bennett, G. Gow, S. McKenzie, T. Hutchison, K. Reeves.

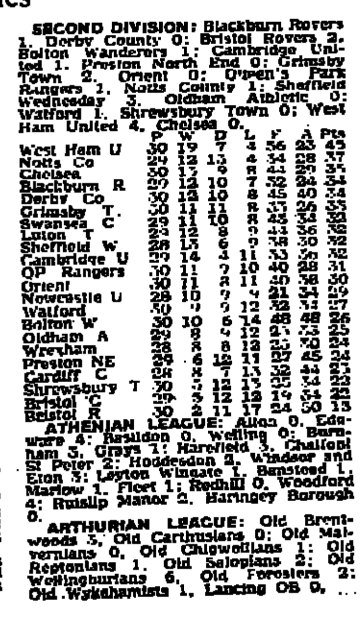
Referee: R. Lewis (Great Bookham).

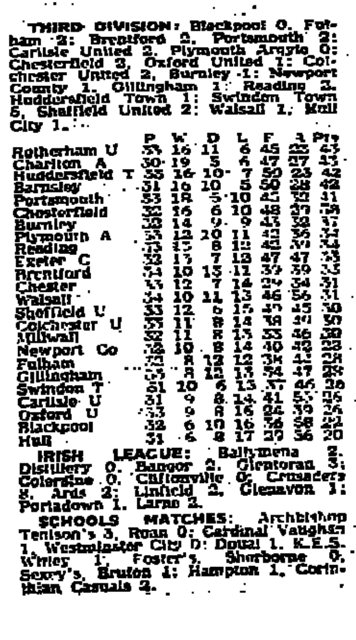


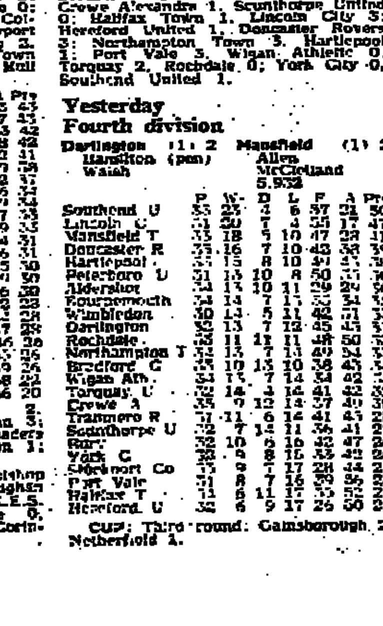
Slack on the right and slackness everywhere as Booth puts City on the main road

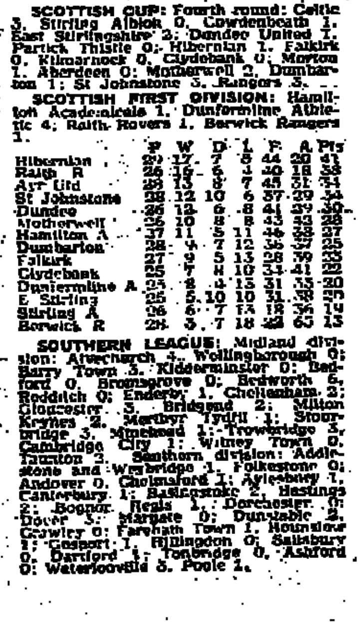
Weekend results and tables

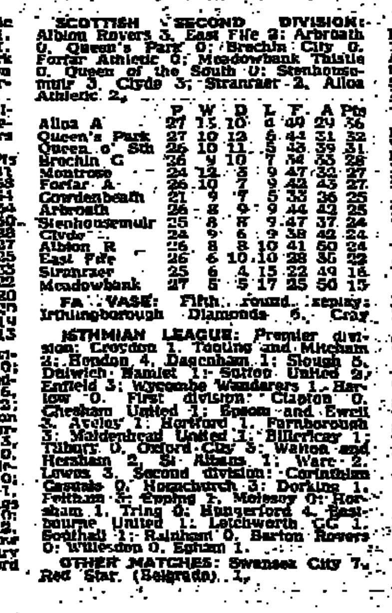






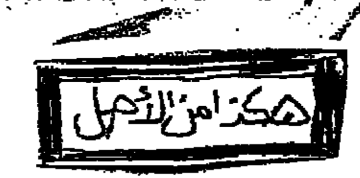












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SPORT

Cricket

Emburey takes his anointed place in West Indian sun

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Port of Spain, Feb 15

England had a good day here yesterday in the first Test match against West Indies, their ground fielding being excellent and their bowling, especially Emburey's, much better than on Friday. There remains, however, a long way to go before the game is safe. West Indies, in their first innings, are 365 for seven.

Today has been the rest day, which was originally planned for tomorrow. The reason for the change is Panorama, the national steel band competition which takes place on the nearby savannah and can be heard throughout the city. To have played today would have been like playing in a disco hall. It would also have meant a smaller crowd than on the first two days —and these were disappointing enough.

How many of the empty spaces have been due to the appeal, made locally, to boycott the match because of the selection of the West Indian side it is hard to know; suffice it to say that the joy which has greeted the West Indians when they have come out to bat—even the great Richards—has been more confined than usual.

Yesterday's cricket was played in the hottest weather of the tour. After West Indies had reached 169 before losing a wicket it would have been easy for England to flag, but no one did. Bowling after tea in dark glasses because of the glare from the pitch, and heavily anointed against the sun, Emburey in the day took five for 81 in 40 overs. Although still with six men on the on-side, he aimed less at the leg stump than the day before and more at middle and off.

The more he pinned the batsmen down the more prepared he became to give the ball air. Off his own bowling he held a fine, low catch, diving to his right, to deny Haynes, when 96, his hundred, and he tossed one well up to bowl Lloyd, whom he had just had dropped at deep square leg.

Mattis, caught at backward short leg off Emburey, joined the ranks of batsmen of high promise who have started their Test careers with a duck. Greenidge, going down the wicket to Emburey, drove him chest-high to deep mid-on; Murray, trying to hit him back over the top, was splendidly caught by Botham, running back from mid-on and taking the ball as it came over his shoulder.

Against Trinidad last week Emburey took none for 71 in 33 overs. Yesterday he used to his advantage the peculiar pressures of Test cricket and the experience gained from having played here then. The Test pitch has, in fact, been faster than the one for the Trinidad match, as Dilley showed with one or two lively bouncers, but it is a difference only of degree. All Queen's Park pitches, even the less slow ones, are among the "flattest" in the world.

The other Englishmen since the war to have bowled 50 overs in an innings in a Test match in West Indies are Laker (50—27—71—4) at Sabina Park, Kingston, in 1953-54, Lock (59—14—178—2) here in Port of Spain, also in 1953-54, and Pocock (57—14—152—0) at Sabina Park on the last tour. Emburey's figures at the moment are 51—16—112—5. In Laker's day the off-spinner would challenge the batsman to an off-side battle more often than he does today—but then, as now, accuracy was what mattered most.

Yesterday's play had everything to do with this. Gomes, for example, had not made a run for an hour when his concentration cracked and he was driven to chasing a widish, off-side ball. Old, admirably persistent, was the bowler, and Downton, behind the wicket, held a good catch, falling to his left. Richards, likewise, having been made to fret by Emburey, was caught at square leg when he hooked too eagerly at a short ball from Miller.

Lloyd had been restricted to 16 runs in the first hour after tea when he hit all across the line against Emburey. The two chances which Lloyd survived, on the square-leg boundary when he was 57 off Emburey and at short extra cover off Miller when he was 59, were England's only fielding errors. Another day they might have been a lot more costly.

When the fifth wicket fell at 257 England had taken five wickets in the day for 113 runs. Had Murray, having been booed to the wicket, been given out before he had scored—England made a confident appeal for a catch at short leg off bat and pad, off Old—West Indies would have been 260 for six with only fast bowlers left to Lloyd a hand. As it was, Lloyd and Murray added 75 for the sixth wicket, the new ball, taken to give Emburey something harder to bowl with, bringing some relaxation of the pressure. For all that, seven wickets in six hours for 211 runs was an unexpectedly good English return.

So far as the next three days are concerned, I would like to feel as sanguine as Botham that "on this pitch you'd be struggling to get a result in 10 days let alone five." True, the pitch can only become slower, and West Indies have no spin to speak of. At the same time, the bounce will get more uneven and as the cracks widen the occasional ball is sure to do something untoward. If the rate at which the West Indians would bowl their overs, should England get on top, rules out any chance of an English victory, there is nothing to preclude an English collapse. Given fine weather a lot can happen.

WEST INDIES: First Innings

C. G. Greenidge, c Botham, b Emburey	84
D. L. Haynes, c and b Emburey	96
I. V. A. Richards, c Gower, b Miller	29
E. Mattis, c Miller, b Emburey	0
H. A. Gomes, c Downton, b Old	5
C. H. Lloyd, b Emburey	64
D. A. Murray, c Botham, b Emburey	46
A. M. E. Roberts, not out	15
M. A. Holding, not out	12
Extras (l-b 11, n-b 3)	14
Total	365

J. Garner and C. E. H. Croft to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—168, 2—203, 3—203, 4—215, 5—257, 6—332, 7—348.

BOWLING (to date): Dilley, 23—4—57—0; Botham, 25—6—84—0; Old, 16—3—49—1; Emburey, 51—16—112—5; Miller, 18—4—42—1; Gooch, 2—0—3—0; Willey, 3—1—4—0.

ENGLAND: G. Boycott, G. A. Gooch, B. C. Rose, D. L. Gower, I. T. Botham, G. Miller, P. Willey, †P. R. Downton, J. E. Emburey, C. M. Old, G. R. Dilley.

Umpires: C. Cumberbatch and D. Sang Hue.


Emburey wore dark glasses against the glare.

Rugby League

Fulham huff and puff to a packed house

By Keith Macklin

The only giants to bite the dust in yesterday's first round games in the Challenge Cup, sponsored by Three Fives, were dispatched by other first division giants. Bradford Northern and Leeds were beaten by Salford and Hull, respectively, but it was a poor day for the Davids. Fulham, despite attracting a record crowd of around 15,000 to Craven Cottage, huffed and puffed in vain against a Wakefield Trinity side who fought determinedly to ensure that they did not become sacrificial victims as Leeds had done before them.

The Trinity half backs, Agar and Topliss, were outstanding for the first division side, Agar putting Wakefield ahead with a dropped goal. Keith Smith, the former England Rugby Union international centre, scored a fine try for Trinity, and the lead was stretched to nine points when Agar and Topliss set up a try for Fletcher and Diamond kicked a penalty.

However, roared on by their immensely enthusiastic following, Fulham made a late rally and Hull scored under the posts, MacCorquodale kicking the goal. It was too late, with Fulham's consolation the knowledge of having created another attendance record at Craven Cottage.

On a day of splendid attendances there was another crowd topping 15,000 at Hull, where the home team convincingly snuffed out the challenge of Leeds. Hull, who were beaten finalists last season, outplayed Leeds, particularly in the first half. Their tries came from Norton and Banks with four goals from Lloyd. Naylor got a late try for Leeds and Dick kicked a goal.

Salford sprang the nearest thing to a surprise by beating Bradford Northern at The Willows. Salford are likely to be relegated and Bradford Northern are well in the running for the Slalom Lager championship, but Salford played some excellent rugby to run up a 17—3 lead, with Maurice Richards, the former Wales and British Lions winger, scoring a supurb individual try. Northern refused to give up and tries by Alan Redfearn and Noble gave a rousing and tense finish to an exciting game.

The amateurs, Pilkington Recs, gave an excellent account of themselves against the second division leaders, York, but poor finishing let them down. Among the favourites for the trophy, Widnes thrashed second division Doncaster for 50 points, and picked up £6,145 in sponsors' prize money, while Warrington and Castleford disposed of the second division challenges of Bramley and Huyton. The draw for the second round takes place today.

Racing

Pollardstown unlucky understudy in Leopardstown feature film

From an Irish Racing Correspondent
Dublin, Feb 15

Few racegoers were in any doubt that the favourite, Daring Run, had beaten Ivan King in the Erin Foods Champion Hurdle at Leopardstown on Saturday, but the subsequent stewards' inquiry and the objection by Philip Blacker, the rider of the English challenger, Pollardstown, to the first and second left the final outcome in doubt for another 20 minutes.

The race had taken its final shape after jumping the second-last flight, where Slaney Idol started to lose his prominent position and Daring Run tackled Pollardstown with Ivan King making headway along the rails. Pollardstown became the meat in the sandwich as Ivan King forced his way through and Daring Run, on the outside, held his ground.

There was just a moment after jumping the last flight when Ivan King threatened to head Daring Run, but Ted Walsh kept his mount at full stretch and won by half a length. Another three lengths further back came Pollardstown, with Dunaree fourth.

It was almost inevitable that the stewards would initiate an inquiry and the confusion was compounded when Philip Blacker lodged his objection. The bookmakers gave the objection little chance, offering 10-1 against Pollardstown, but the film patrol pictures revealed just how seriously he had been impeded by Ivan King.

They likewise showed that Daring Run had not transgressed the rules at all. The outcome was the relegation of Ivan King to last place and the promotion of Pollardstown to second.

The first two will be meeting again next month in the Waterford Crystal Champion Hurdle at Cheltenham. As Pollardstown will have a 6 lb pull compared to Saturday's encounter, he would appear to have every chance of turning the tables.

I thought that the bookmakers in leaving Daring Run at 6-1 were being over-cautious. Ivan King will be a strong Irish fancy for a novice event at Cheltenham in which he will probably be opposed by Dunaree, who ran a sound race on Saturday.

In the Harold Clarke Leopardstown Steeplechase, the Duchess of Westminster's Last Suspect put up an astonishing display of front-running. After making several mistakes, he looked a very tired horse at the third last fence, but when the pursuing favourite, Corrib Chieftain, made a bad mistake at the second-last fence, Last Suspect, a son of the Irish Grand National winner, Last Link, summoned hidden reserves and finished surprisingly fresh to beat an Aintree Grand National candidate, Kylogue Lady, by 15 lengths. Jim Dreaper will defer a Cheltenham decision for some weeks.

Fourth place in the Leopardstown Steeplechase went to Royal Bond, who had been hampered by Corrib Chieftain. It was a sound effort on his part with a top weight of 12st and he will now go for the Cheltenham Gold Cup where he will be ridden by Tommy McGivern.

Light the Wad was most lucky winner of the Arkle Challenge Cup. He appeared to have little chance going to the last against Tacroy, who landed awkwardly and unseated his partner, Gerry Newman. Tacroy, with a clear run, will be a strong Irish challenger for Cheltenham's Arkle Cup.

Liam O'Donnell, who rode Royal Bond on Saturday has already been booked by Joan Moore to deputize for the injured Tommy Carberry on Tied Cottage in the Gold Cup. Tied Cottage and Eddie O'Grady's Jack of Trumps, are likely to be in opposition in the Amberwave Steeplechase at Fairyhouse next Saturday.

Mick O'Toole's Chinrullah and Bill Durkan's Anaglogs Daughter will meet in the P.Z. Mower Steeplechase at Thurles next Thursday. Daletta, the Irish Grand National winner, now recovered from the virus, will probably run at Newbury on March 7 before his attempt in the Gold Cup, Guy St John Williams' the trainer says.

Windsor summons for Midnight Court

By Michael Seeley

All the action took place in Ireland on Saturday. The only hard news in this country concerned the state of the ground which obstinately remained frozen solid. Unless there is a dramatic change in the weather there will be trainers as well as horses walking their boxes in a few days' time.

As Charles Toller, the clerk of the course at Newbury, said gloomily: "Once the frost sets in at this time of the year you've no chance. Come March the sun is hotter and shines for long enough to give it a chance to thaw out." Both meetings scheduled for today, Nottingham and Plumpton, have been abandoned.

After such an open season no one is seriously worried as yet. Fred Winter summed up everyone's feelings when he said: "The people I'm sorry for are the Newbury executive and the huge crowds which missed such a marvellous day's sport. What with the Schweppes, Prince Charles riding and all those other good races, it is as though we'd lost the Derby."

Winter added that Midnight Court must have rapped a nerve last Friday. "He's all right now and will go for the Fairlawne Chase at Windsor on Wednesday. If that's off he could run either in the Jerry M Handicap at Lingfield on Saturday or the Costain Homes Steeplechase at Nottingham the same afternoon."

Unfortunately there is always a certain amount of fencing around on these occasions. Trainers never want their Cheltenham hopes to be lost in mortal combat before the big day. This is a sad fact of life which must break the hearts of those clerks of courses who stage the conditions races that the trainers are always clamouring for.

Last Thursday's Ely Steepechase at Huntingdon in which the hunter-chaser, Dancing Brig, beat his solitary opponent, Havanus, was a fiasco. This was because no one wanted to tackle Wayward Lad. And when Michael Dickinson's brilliant novice was unable to run, the ensuing match, exciting though it was, hardly served the purpose intended.

Midnight Court, Silver Buck and Border Incident are the three big names among the six declared for the Fairlawne. Border Incident is unlikely to be in the line-up as Richard Head sees no point in taking on Silver Buck at this stage. Silver Buck is a definite runner and as Midnight Court is also an intended starter John Francome will not be available for the winner of the King George VI Steeplechase. So Dickinson will have to look elsewhere for a deputy for the injured Tommy Carmody.

Wayward Lad will now probably miss Nottingham. "It's too soon after his recent setback and the horse will probably go straight to Haydock on March 7", Dickinson said. Badsworth Boy will now be rerouted to the Ladbroke B etcna Hurdle Final at Nottingham the same afternoon. However, this strong fancy for the abandoned Schweppes Gold Trophy, now faces a stiffer task. The handicapper had the evidence of Badsworth Boy's easy victory at Worcester in front of him when he framed the weights

The summer glories of Goodwood seem light years away as we shiver in the iron grip of the frost. But it is still interesting to hear that the races on the Sussex course will carry an extra £120,000 in prize money next season. The biggest increase has gone to the group one Sussex Stakes which will now have £60,000 in added money.

STATE OF GOING (official): Nottingham: abandoned (frost); Plumpton: abandoned (frost). Tomorrow: Newton Abbot: soft (no problems); Towcester: soft (ground frozen, inspection 3.30 pm).

New Zealand recall Reid and Edwards for first Test

Wellington, Feb 15.—New Zealand have recalled John Reid and Graham Edwards in a squad of 12 for the first of the three Tests against India starting here on Saturday. Reid, current top scorer in domestic cricket, was discarded after appearing once against Pakistan in the 1978-79 series. Edwards, with five Test caps, has been out of favour since the tour of England in 1978 when he kept wicket in two Tests.

John Bracewell, an off-spinner, who did not play in this weekend's one-day matches against India, retains the Test place he gained during the recent tour of Australia. Gary Troup, a left-arm fast-medium bowler, is also chosen after returning early from Australia because of injury.

The 12 are: G. Howarth (captain), J. Bracewell, L. Cairns, J. Coney, B. Edgar, G. Edwards, R. Hadlee, J. Reid, I. Smith, M. Snedden, G. Troup, J. Wright.

India have asked for a replacement for Dilip Doshi, their injured left-arm spinner. Doshi has a foot injury which will keep him out of action for three weeks. He will be replaced by a 19-year-old slow, left-arm bowler, Ravi Shastri.

Shivlal Yadav, an off-spinner, is also prevented by injury from playing at the moment. He had a bone in his foot broken by a ball from the Australian fast bowler, Len Pascoe, during India's win in the third Test last week.

New Zealand confirmed their recent fine form in limited-over cricket when they swept to their second consecutive one-day win over India in Hamilton today. The New Zealanders, who won by 77 runs in Auckland yesterday, had 57 runs to spare. They scored 210 for eight in 50 overs and dismissed India for 153.

New Zealand's triumph was an extension of their relative one-day success during the recent tour of Australia where they qualified for the World Series Cup finals before losing 3—1 to the home side. India played with greater determination and fielded better today, but the batting crumbled after an encouraging start.

They were 104 for two at one stage but their last eight wickets crashed for 49 against New Zealand's five-pronged seam attack. Gary Robertson finished with two for 29 on his first international appearance and Troup wrapped up the tail and took three for 18.

New Zealand's batsmen had to struggle initially on a damp and green pitch and were reduced to 91 for four before the all-rounder Jeremy Coney, came to the rescue. Coney made the top score of 46, including two sixes, and the recovery was consolidated by Richard Hadlee, who scored 23.

The Indians, who are making a one-month tour including three Tests, play a three-day match against Central Districts at Napier starting on Tuesday.

NZ men for S Africa: Two New Zealand Test players, Richard Hadlee and John Wright, may play first-class cricket in South Africa next season. The contacts have been made by their county cricket colleagues in England, Clive Wright (Hadlee's opening bowling partner with Nottinghamshire) and Peter Kirsten (a fellow batsman with John Wright in the Derbyshire team).

A motivating factor for Hadlee and Wright is the desire to be non-New Zealand residents for local tax purposes.

SCORES: Saturday (46 overs): New Zealand, 218 for 6 (B. Edgar 99 not out; K. Ghavri 3 for 10); India, 141 for 9 (Kapil Dev 50). Sunday (50 overs): New Zealand, 210 for 8 (J. V. Coney 46); India, 153 (45.2 overs) (D. B. Vengsarkar 41; G. B. Troup 3 for 18).—Reuter.

Boxing

Hope and Keane are the main attractions

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

It says much for the health of the 55-year-old Universities and Hospitals championships that the loudest cheer at the end of the finals night at the Sports Centre, Kent University, Canterbury, was given to the losers. Many of them had boxed their way through the novices competition at Bath last December and, on Saturday, they made the fancied boxers work

Kent and UCD shared the Harry Preston Trophy with 21 points apiece and the cup will go to Dublin for the first six months. The boxers who looked the best were Duggal, of Kent, and McGinness, of Strathclyde. Duggal's straight punching proved too much for the UCD bantamweight, Cotter. McGinness, who had had a rough passage in the semi-final round was clearly not keen to suffer the same treatment again and stopped Kent's De Souza in the first

It was fitting that the most exciting bout should be at light-middle, for Maurice Hope, the world light-middleweight champion, was the guest of honour. Keane, of Galway, boxed well on the retreat and caught the over-active Cork man, Cleary, with neat counters as he bobbed up within range.

FINALS: Flyweight: B. Knox (Glasgow) beat J. Jordan (UCD), pts; Bantam: S. Duggal (Kent) beat S. Cotter (UCD), third round; Feather: N. Dolan (UCD) beat D. O'Donovan (Cork), pts; Light: D. Fitzpatrick (UCD) beat C. Murphy (Galway), pts; Light-welter: B. McGinness (Strathclyde) beat K. De Souza (Kent), first round; Welter: E. Walsh (Galway) beat S. Kennedy (Bradford), third round; Light-middle: J. Keane (Galway) beat J. Cleary (Cork), pts; Middle: I. Collins (Kent) beat N. Pirie (Edinburgh), pts; Light-heavy: S. Dreney (Galway) beat D. Jones (UCD), pts; Heavy: C. Hooper (Kent) w.o.

Tennis

Rival's handicap makes it easy for Miss Wade

Oakland, California, Feb 15.—Both Virginia Wade and Andrea Jaeger, the American prodigy, were taken to three sets as they reached the final of the $125,000 championship here last night.

Miss Wade was helped by an injury to her opponent Beth Norton, which reduced the unseeded American girl to a cripple in the later stages of their match. With the British girl 4—3 ahead in the final set, Miss Norton fell in trying to reach a crosscourt drive and sprained her ankle. The ankle was taped, but Miss Norton double-faulted on the next point to lose that game and provided little opposition to the former Wimbledon champion when she served for the match. Miss Wade won 6—3, 3—6, 6—3.

It could have been an all-British final had Sue Barker retained the initiative in her quarter-final round match with Miss Jaeger. The American was in trouble early on, and made too many unforced errors to lose the first set 6—3. She recovered to romp through the second set to love in 20 minutes. The third set was similar, with Miss Jaeger continuing to hit crisp volleys and long, accurate forehands and backhands as Miss Barker lost her earlier accuracy. She also lost the match 6—3, 0—6, 1—6.

In her semi-final round match Miss Jaeger beat Wendy Turnbull 3—6, 7—5, 6—0. The Australian girl, seeded third, had beaten Mima Jausovec 7—6, 7—5 in her quarter final, coming from behind several times to beat the Yugoslav who likes to stay on the baseline and drive to the corners with pinpoint accuracy.—Reuter.

Vilas through to final as Borg pulls out

Boca Raton, Florida, Feb 14.—Guillermo Vilas, of Argentina, defeated Vitas Gerulaitis, of the United States, 6—3, 2—6, 6—4 to earn a place in the final of the $300,000 four-man Grand Slam torunament here today. In the final he meets John McEnroe, who easily beat his fellow American Brian Teacher 6—3, 6—1.

Gerulaitis, playing in place of Bjorn Borg, who withdrew because of illness, wasted several chances in the final set. He lost two games in a row after leading 3—1 and, after taking the seventh game despite serving two successive double-faults, lost the following three games and the match.

Borg, the defending champion, said he had pulled out because he had a fever and a respiratory infection. He said he had been suffering from influenza for the last month.

Lennart Bergelin, Borg's coach, said: "Bjorn has been sick for some time. He was in bed for six days after winning the Masters last month." Borg had practised with Gerulaitis in the rain here on Thursday and afterwards said that he was ready. "I still have a little 'flu, but I've been working hard," he said at the time.

In a challenge tournament in Toronto last week Borg lost consecutive matches to Jimmy Connors and McEnroe and then pulled out of the match to decide third place. Borg and McEnroe are going to Australia early next week to compete in a three-match exhibition series for total prize money of $1m. The winner of the series will also receive a gold racket worth $75,000.—Reuter.

Whichello oozes confidence in his final test

By a Special Correspondent

In winning his third 14 and under Saab title in three starts, Richard Whichello of Kent in yesterday's final dropped only two games to Yorkshire's Jason Goodall at Derby Sports Centre.

In the two previous Saab tournaments, the Whichello-Goodall finals were much closer affairs but the feeling in these tennis circles is that Whichello is moving clear of his rival at this level. He is more strongly built than most, his strokes are the reverse of flimsy and, perhaps most important of all, he now has a good enough attitude not to let points slip away unnecessarily.

The relief Whichello must have felt at surviving a somewhat edgy semi-final match against another Yorkshire lad, Stephen Heron, may have something to do with his easy and confident shot-making in the final. His concentration was first class and his opponent, who is perhaps a little too apt to exude an air of despondency, did nothing to prompt any kind of alarm.

Among the girls, Joanne Louis won her second Saab title when she defeated Christine Gillies of Hampshire 6—4, 6—0. The first four games of this match took as long as the last 12. There was a second game containing eight deuces but, after Miss Louis had marshalled her usual composure, she was given no further trouble.

BOYS: Semi-final round: R. Whichello (Kent) beat S. Heron (Yorkshire), 6—5, 2—6, 6—3; J. Goodall (Yorkshire) beat R. Every (Derbyshire), 6—1, 6—4. Final: Whichello beat Goodall, 6—1, 6—1.

GIRLS: Semi-final round: J. Louis (Devon) beat S. Mair (Scotland), 6—2, 7—6; C. Gillies (Hampshire) beat A. Grant (Lincolnshire), 7—5, 4—6, 6—3. Final: Louis beat Gillies 6—4, 6—0.

Hockey

Brookeman lifts Middlesex

By Sydney Friskin

Middlesex 3 Lancashire 1

Middlesex, with most of their old confidence restored, defeated Lancashire convincingly at Eastcote yesterday to reach the semi-final round of the county hockey championship, sponsored by Rank Xerox. They now meet Worcestershire, while Buckinghamshire will play Norfolk, and the intention is to play both matches at one place on March 21, with the final on the following day.

The simplest analysis of yesterday's match is that Middlesex took their chances and Lancashire did not. Lancashire looked tired in the last 20 minutes, which was not surprising in view of their excessive weekend exertions. After beating Cheshire 3—1 at Northern Club in a replay on Saturday, they left Liverpool almost immediately to keep their appointment at Eastcote.

Had Lancashire capitalized on one of two chances early in the second half they would have levelled the score at 2—2. But once Middlesex scored their third goal there was no doubt about the result. With some frost still lingering on the surface, Lancashire found the pitch a little difficult, but were offering no excuses.

Middlesex launched most of their attacks from the right, where Brookeman's speed and penetrating hits gave Imtiaz every incentive to score, which he did in the 23rd minute after the ball had come back off the goalkeeper's hand. Lancashire took only three minutes to draw level. A shot by David Badley from a short corner led to a scramble, then to a penalty stroke, which Badley himself converted.

There followed Lancashire's best attacking spell, which brought them two short corners just before the interval. Off the first of these awards Owen saved well from David Badley and then from Foulkes on the follow-up.

The initiative moved back into Middlesex hands early in the second half, with McGinn scoring off a free hit from the right by Brookeman. Midway through this period Banahan missed a chance for Lancashire by shooting wide from Nicholson's pass. That proved a costly lapse, for it was not long before Middlesex scored through Imtiaz, who made capital use of another penetrating hit from the right by Brookeman. John Badley did a lot of good running for Lancashire on the right wing, and Rielly in the Middlesex defence looked a player of high promise.

MIDDLESEX: D. J. Owen (Southgate); I. S. Barrett (Hounslow), C. Rielly (Southgate), I. Meakins (Hounslow), B. Green (Beckenham), C. Orsborn (Spencer), K. S. Bhaura (Hounslow), A. K. McGinn (Southgate, captain), R. H. Brookeman (Southgate), S. M. Imtiaz (Southgate), S. Batchelor (Southgate).

LANCASHIRE: M. Platt (Preston); J. Clark (Hightown), D. G. Blackmore (Liverpool Sefton), A. Marsh (Hightown), D. W. Badley (Liverpool Sefton), R. Davies (Hightown), J. J. Badley (Liverpool Sefton), P. Nicholson (Preston) (sub, C. J. Whalley, Hightown), M. D. Banahan (Preston) (sub, M. Dunkerley, Northern), J. E. C. Foulkes (Hightown, captain), J. Campbell (Southport).

Umpires: R. C. Beatty (Midlands) and D. C. Bruce (Eastern Counties).

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: Quarter-final round: Hertfordshire 0, Buckinghamshire 4; Somerset 2, Norfolk 3 (after extra time); Worcestershire 3, Wiltshire 1; Middlesex 3, Lancashire 1. Semi-final round draw: Buckinghamshire v Norfolk; Worcestershire v Middlesex.

Classics by Swinnerton

By Joyce Whitehead

Hertfordshire 1 Staffordshire 3

Staffordshire are the English county champions. They beat Hertfordshire in the final at Charlton Park School, Cheltenham, yesterday. Jane Swinnerton, their centre forward, was the star of the match. She scored the first and third goals and each was a classic. Victoria Campbell, the right wing, scored No. 2. Hertfordshire scored first. Christine Duffet hit the post, then picked up the rebound to score the goal, with the Staffordshire goalkeeper on the ground. It was her only mistake. Within minutes Miss Swinnerton equalized and it was 1—1 at half-time.

After rather dreary play on Saturday, the semi-final results were: Staffordshire 1, Sheffield League 0; and Hertfordshire 1, Avon 1. Hertfordshire came through on penalty flicks after extra time.

The final, played on a hardcourt pitch, was fast and exciting. The surface suited Valerie Robinson, of Hertfordshire. She made many openings for her forwards but seldom was a return pass sent. Staffordshire never stopped running and played a constructive game, with everyone giving 101 per cent. Each did her own job and was ready to help others. They have a splendid team spirit.

Towards the end Hertfordshire were awarded four or five corners but they could not score. Staffordshire have been Midland county champions four times in the past six years but this is the first time they have reached the national championship final and they well deserved their win.

Avon beat Sheffield League 1—0 with a goal from their left wing, Jeanette Seavill, who played well. This gave them third place in the championship.

STAFFORDSHIRE: J. Taylor; S. Orton, S. Parsons, A. Glossop, K. Eames, J. Lowe, V. Campbell, M. Alcock, J. Swinnerton, S. Haddon, J. Champion.

HERTFORDSHIRE: S. Owen; J. Dayer-Smith, M. Daly, C. Imber, C. Ward, B. Footer, S. Molyneux, V. Robinson, C. Duffet, R. Robertson, A. Pemberton.

UMPIRES: L. Simpson and M. Harris.

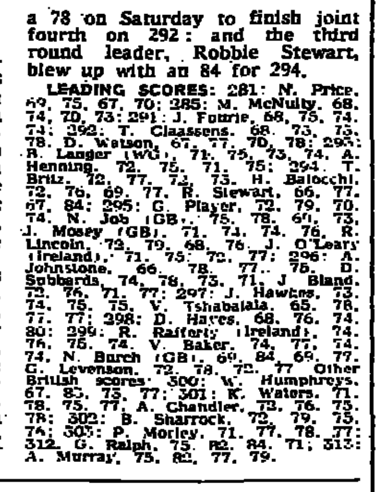
Golf

Price fans Sunshine rivals

From Eric Marsden,
Johannesburg, Feb 15

Nicky Price, of the Royal Salisbury Golf Club in Zimbabwe, was rewarded for his consistency on the Sunshine circuit when he won the South African Masters tournament at the Milnerton Links in Cape Town on Saturday with a seven-under par total of 281. He was a comfortable four strokes ahead of another Zimbabwean, Mark McNulty, and the two were the only competitors under par.

John Fourie, of Pretoria, was another six strokes behind on 291. A feature of the tournament, which was plagued on two days by gales from the Cape South-Easter, was the collapse of each of the overnight leaders. Vincent Tshabalala, of Soweto, who had a 65 on the first day, finished well down the field with 297: Tertius Claassens, who took over from him, had a 78 on Saturday to finish joint fourth on 292: and the third round leader, Robbie Stewart, blew up with an 84 for 294.



LEADING SCORES: 281: N. Price, 69, 75, 67, 70; 285: M. McNulty, 68, 74, 70, 73; 291: J. Fourie, 68, 75, 74, 74; 292: T. Claassens, 68, 73, 73, 78; D. Watson, 67, 77, 70, 78; 293: R. Langer (WG), 71, 75, 73, 74; A. Henning, 72, 75, 71, 75; 294: T. Britz, 72, 77, 72, 73; H. Balocchi, 72, 76, 69, 77; R. Stewart, 66, 77, 67, 84; 295: G. Player, 72, 79, 70, 74; N. Job (GB), 75, 78, 69, 73; J. Mosey (GB), 71, 74, 74, 76; R. Lincoln, 72, 79, 68, 76; J. O'Leary (Ireland), 71, 75, 72, 77; 296: A. Johnstone, 66, 78, 77, 75; D. Sobbards, 74, 78, 73, 71; J. Bland, 72, 76, 71, 77; 297: J. Hawkes, 73, 74, 75, 75; V. Tshabalala, 65, 78, 77, 77; 298: D. Hayes, 68, 76, 74, 80; 299: R. Rafferty (Ireland), 74, 76, 75, 74; V. Baker, 74, 77, 74, 74; N. Burch (GB), 69, 84, 69, 77; G. Levenson, 72, 78, 72, 77. Other British scores: 300: W. Humphreys, 67, 85, 75, 77; 301: K. Waters, 71, 78, 75, 77; A. Chandler, 73, 76, 75, 78; 302: B. Sharrock, 72, 79, 75, 76; 303: P. Morley, 71, 77, 78, 77; 312: G. Ralph, 75, 82, 84, 71; 313: A. Murray, 75, 82, 77, 79.

Faldo eight behind Irwin

Honolulu, Feb 14.—Hale Irwin had a brilliant 10-under-par 62 today to take a five-stroke lead after three rounds of the $325,000 Hawaiian Open tournament at the Waialae Country Club. He stands at 196, 20 under par.

Don Schroeder, with a 66 today, is alone in second place on 201. One stroke back are Terry Diehl and Scott Simpson. Isao Aoki, of Japan, and Don January are on 203.

Nick Faldo of Britain, who set a tournament record with a 62 on Friday, had a par 72 today and fell eight shots backs on 204. Irwin, matching Faldo's record, had four birdies on the front nine for a 32 and came back with six more for a 30 over the final nine holes. He matched the record with a 30-foot putt for a birdie on the final hole.

THE LEADERS: 196: H. Irwin, 68, 66, 62; 201: D. Schroeder, 70, 65, 66; T. Diehl, 67, 69, 66; S. Simpson, 66, 69, 67; 203: I. Aoki (Japan), 69, 68, 66; D. January, 67, 68, 68; 204: N. Faldo (GB), 70, 62, 72; W. Levi, 70, 68, 66; D. Tewell, 67, 73, 64; 205: T. Watson, 66, 68, 71; B. Crenshaw, 68, 70, 67; W. Kratzert, 67, 70, 68; B. Douglass, 68, 66, 71; M. McCullough, 71, 66, 68; 206: L. Trevino, 70, 67, 69. Foreign scores: 213: N. Takasu (Japan), 71, 68, 74; 214: M. Ozaki (Japan), 75, 67, 72.

Show jumping

The man with six Lancias

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris

David Broome, with five Lancia motor cars and sundry Volvos to his credit, added a sixth Lancia on Saturday at Northwood, thanks to the concerted efforts of the two greys in his team, the American thoroughbred Queensway Philco, who is bred on classic Flat racing lines, and Queensway Big Q, known as Hermann the German.

The German horse won the Lancia Silver Lance by nearly half a second from Nick Skelton on Barbarella, with Queensway Philco a further half a second behind in a dead-heat for third place with Geoffrey Billington on Snowdonia.

Both of Broome's horses went on to contest the Lancia Trophy, where each achieved a further two clear rounds. When Philco went into second place behind Fred Welch on Norstar, Broome was home and dry for the car and the £5,500 accruing to the overall winner, so Big Q was not required to jump again.

Yesterday David and Elizabeth Broome and Ted and Elizabeth Edgar were on their way for the Sunshine Circuit in Florida, but they will be back for the £8,000 Lancome Lovers' Leap competition on February 25 at the British Equestrian Centre at Kenilworth, where they will join their other in-laws, Graham and Karen Fletcher, to ride against 13 other married couples, including David and Marion Mould, Tony and Ann Newbery, Derek and Jill Ricketts, Malcolm and Judy Pyrah, Lionel and Pamela Dunning, Tony and Maureen Holden, and Paddy and Trisha McMahon.

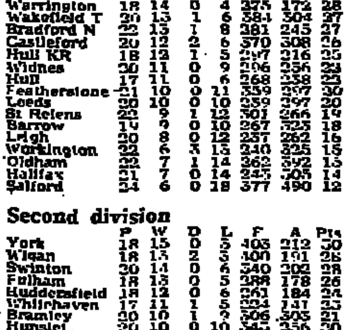
LANCIA SILVER LANCE: 1, Queensway Big Q (D. Broome), clear, 38.8sec; 2, FMS Barbarella (N. Skelton), clear, 39.2sec; equal 3, Queensway Philco (Broome) and Snowdonia (G. Billington), clear, 39.8sec.

LANCIA TROPHY: 1, Norstar (F. Welch), clear, 35.1sec; 2, Queensway Philco (Broome), clear, 35.5sec; 3, Snoopy IV (Miss V. Gascoine), 4 faults, 38.4sec. Overall winner for £6,000 car: Broome.

For the record

Rugby League

THREE FIVES CUP: First round: Hull Kingston Rovers 18, Barrow 13.



[illegible]

First division

[illegible]

Second division

[illegible]

Hockey

[illegible]

Lacrosse

[illegible]

Boxing

[illegible]

Basketball

[illegible]

Swimming

[illegible]

Rowing

[illegible]

Golf

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Cross country

[illegible]

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Village girl convinced of her inspiration

Saint Joan
Cambridge

Irving Wardle

Saint Joan is Shaw's one foray into popular myth-making, offering a heroic portrait undefaced by his usual ironic graffiti. Hence its often fatal appeal to leading actresses lured by the unique prospect of an idealized Shavian heroine.

Nancy Meckler's Cambridge Theatre Company production has clearly been staged for the sake of Julie Covington, but neither in her performance nor in the surrounding casting is there any trace of the armour-plated, tear-jerking martyr. Miss Covington begins and ends as an awkward village girl with sticking-out ears who happens to be convinced that she is divinely inspired, and who succeeds in turning even the most precariously heightened stretches of Shavian rhetoric into unctuous common speech.

She does not articulate Joan's two big reversals of confidence with enough definition. When she loses her friends after the coronation, and when she loses faith in her voices during the trial, she slides into despair rather than picking her moment. But what never falters is her command of the two sides of the character: the submissive peasant, always ready to obey feudal orders and the vessel of angelic inspiration who can quietly place a hand on the shoulder of the Dauphin (Ronnie Letham) giving him the power to snap his fingers in the face of the court.

The surrounding company includes a few stridently ineffectual performances, but so far as Joan's principal adversaries are concerned she is worthily matched: particularly by John Phillips's Cauchon and Fulton Mackay's Inquisitor—the first a grave diplomat with great resources of theological passion, the second a sweetly benevolent father of the church impervious to all earthly horrors. Patrick Robertson and Rosemary Vercoe supply an arrangement of mobile scaffolds suggesting the walls of Orleans, court and cathedral interiors, while constantly preserving the image of an inescapable prison.

The Comic Strip
Boulevard Theatre

Michael Church

"Ladies and gentlemen, will you take your seats for the Festival of Erotica."—There is a magic moment during the Saturday night interval at the Raymond Revuebar when, like chalk and cheese, two audiences converge. Clutching their drinks the businessmen file out first, in pursuit of fleshly delights. The remainder file off in another direction, braced for a second blood-stained hour of the Comic Strip.

This is a world presided over by a human volcano called Alexei Sayle. Being a man of taste and discrimination, Mr Sayle feels duty bound to communicate his feelings about some of the awfully, nice, sincere, deserving people who are riding high at present. Being possessed of a Michelin body, a very loud voice, and a brain that only works on overdrive, it is perhaps inevitable that he should express these feelings in a somewhat startling form.

Before he has been on stage thirty seconds his nice, sincere, *Time Out*-reading audience realize that they are themselves his principal target. This evening is in aid of Help A London Kid—Kill A Social Worker. To the accompaniment of gusts of laughter that big hooray-word "alternative" is stripped of its fake significance, and politically-sound corpses start to litter the ground.

This is a world where Thatcher bashing is left to plodding bores at the Riverside Studios and the Royal Court. Save-the-Whalers are felled alongside roller-skating graphic designers; trendies from the Arts Council and the Open University bleed together; dope freaks from Islington squats mingle in the dust with white weekend rastas from St Albans. Unspeakable violence is done to unprintable Cockney "humour". Sayle's delivery is tumultuously swift but his targets are picked off with deadly precision. Nothing escapes his amused, intelligent anger.

As compere he ushers in a series of acts. First come the Outer Limits, two personable young men in dark suits. They present a spectacularly violent airline disaster movie with some spectacularly uncomfortable airline sex; they are extremely funny. Next comes Arnold Brown, a stand-up comedian from Glasgow who specializes in scything himself down with the aid of lethal pauses.

On comes a waif-like gentleman called Lee Cornes, definitely talented but unsettlingly nervous. Next come two young women called French and Saunders whose effective humour derives from the accurate observation of some so far underexamined social stereotypes. Aesthetic relief is provided by a magnetic young blues singer called Debbie Bishop, stylishly accompanied by Harry Bogdanoff. Over the next year or two, these will be names to watch.

The Comic Strip's varying menu inevitably means that dud acts sometimes creep in: this was an unusually good evening. But the show as a whole really is an alternative—to West End "comedy" and also, thank heavens, to left-wing "satire".

Three Choirs' Common Market flavour

The 254th Three Choirs festival, to be held at Worcester from August 22 to August 29, will have a strong Common Market flavour, said Dr Donald Hunt, this year's festival conductor, at last week's press conference. There will be a special emphasis on music from Denmark, Germany and France, with the first performance of Masses by Langlais and Villette, and the British premiere of works by Jeppesen and Sallinen.

New works from British composers include Jonathan Harvey's *Resurrection* and a motet from Dr Herbert Sumsion, who conducted the festival (the oldest in the world) for the first time at Gloucester in 1928, and on many subsequent occasions. Roxburgh's *The Rock*, commissioned for the 1978 festival but first given outside the festival, will have its first performance at the Three Choirs.

The 25th anniversary of the death of Finzi, and the 50th of Nielsen, will be commemorated, and following the success of the Elgar serenade in 1978, there will be a late-night Viennese concert in the cathedral.

Other main events will be Elgar's *The Apostles*, Mahler's Symphony No 2 conducted by Gunter Herbig, and Berlioz's *Grand Messe des Morts*. Orchestras will be the City of Birmingham Symphony, Royal Philharmonic and BBC Northern.

The festival will cost £150,000, of which £30,000 has already been promised by commercial sponsors. The grant of the Arts Council of Great Britain has not yet been announced but will be not less than previous years.

Kenneth Loveland

Paavo Berglund's Scottish post

The Scottish National Orchestra announced at a news conference in Glasgow on Thursday that Mr Paavo Berglund, the 52-year-old Helsinki-born former principal conductor of the Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra, had been appointed principal guest conductor of the Scottish National Orchestra from September this year. The appointment is for an initial period of three years, during which he will conduct concerts for a period of four weeks in each winter season.

He succeeds Mr Gary Bertini, the Israeli conductor, who resigned in January after being principal guest conductor for 10 years and is now principal conductor of the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra.

Now for the elucidation of 'Lulu'

Tonight Alban Berg's Lulu will finally achieve her arrival home, when Covent Garden stages its first production of the opera in which she meets her end in London at the hands of Jack the Ripper. It has been a long wait. When Berg died in 1935, the third act of *Lulu* was not quite finished, and his widow Helene came eventually to decide that it never should be. Only when she died, 41 years after her husband, did it become possible to mount the work complete, with final work on the score undertaken by the Austrian composer Friedrich Cerha. Paris had the honour of the "real" world premiere two years ago.

In the meantime *Lulu* had been given in various truncated versions, using the two acts that Berg completed, and that Helene Berg approved, and filling the rest with fragments of music, mime, film or spoken dialogue. But both Sir Colin Davis, conductor of the Covent Garden *Lulu*, and Götz Friedrich, its producer, agree that such solutions were not satisfactory. Davis has long wanted to do the opera but decided to wait until the complete score was available. Friedrich did produce the two-act version for Danish television in 1970, but feels strongly that this torso cannot work on the stage "because then the third act becomes an appendix, which is ridiculous".

Nevertheless, the Cerha three-act version does not resolve all the problems. Exactly why Berg did not finish the opera remains something of a mystery: all the essentials of the composition were done when he took time off to write his violin concerto. Davis suggests that it was perhaps because "he identified very strongly with Alwa, who is a composer in the opera, and who is killed in the last scene, so that if he had completed it he would have been killing himself". Friedrich takes a rather more mystical line: "We have to remember that two of the greatest operas of this century, *Lulu* and *Moses und Aaron*, were not really brought to an end—and you can add also Janacek's *From the House of the Dead*. I think this is more than a coincidence. I think all three composers were searching for ways to finish their works, and not finding them."


Götz Friedrich and Sir Colin Davis during a break in rehearsal
Photograph by Harry Kerr

Thus, despite the deep admiration for Cerha's work shown by everyone involved in the Covent Garden production and echoed by anyone else who knows the score, the third act has to be regarded as having less authority than the rest. "It's not, as Cerha admits, so precisely worked out", says Davis. "The first two acts have a great variety of vocal delivery—singing, half-singing, speaking, Sprechgesang—and this is not so in the third act, so sometimes you have to make your own guesses about what Berg might have done."

But there can be no question of the third act not being vital to the meaning of the opera, even if it does make for a long and taxing evening for the central character. The American soprano Karan Armstrong, Covent Garden's Lulu, remarks that "it's like singing three Salomes on the same night and then Brünnhilde on top". And the reference to Strauss's opera is pertinent, as Friedrich explains. "Salome is a little girl whose main characteristic is curiosity: she isn't a vamp or a man-eating monster. In that she is close to Lulu."

At the start of the opera, however, Lulu is, if not a monster, then certainly an animal, as are all the principal characters, introduced by the Animal Trainer as inhabitants of his menagerie. This is what gives the clue, as Friedrich sees it, to the "mythological" aspect of the opera. The costumes and settings will in his production suggest the period of the work's composition, the Thirties, but "*Lulu* does not take place in a real bourgeois world: it is a circus, where human beings behave like animals".

"It starts", Friedrich goes on, "as if Lulu is the snake. She kills all the other animals. Berg is showing us at first what we want to see: a kind of operatic peepshow, where Lulu is a pure sex object. Then the turning point comes in the middle of the second act, where this male view of woman is shown up for what it is. She loses all that is snake-like. She kills the most potent of the other animals—Dr Schön, the tiger—and now she is hunted by the rest of the pack. And we recognize more and more what a weak, naive, human character she is in reality. Then at the end, where she becomes what people always thought she was, a prostitute, he shows us that she is no such thing. She even gives Jack the Ripper all the money she has: what kind of a prostitute is that?"

Davis sees a strange contrast between the hollow, inhuman characters and the richly expressive music they have to sing, the cynical history of Lulu's rise and fall and the warmth of the score. "Sometimes I feel there's almost no connexion between what's happening on stage and what I'm doing in the pit. The music is so expansive, so romantic. It's littered with expression markings almost in the way that Elgar is".

It is indeed an utterly captivating score, and becomes quite extraordinarily lush at Lulu's wretched end, as Friedrich points out. "Here, when Jack the Ripper comes in, Berg finds the most touching, the most beautiful and the most terrifying music—all together—and we have to ask what that means. I think probably he saw that she had strayed, like a cat, and that now she was ready to meet her end.

"I've tried to indicate that with the portrait of Lulu, which goes right through the opera and has a particular significance in every scene. It was commissioned by her first husband, used by Alwa on a theatre poster, put in an honoured place by Dr Schön, taken again by Alwa, then cut out from its frame by Lulu's Lesbian admirer the Countess Geschwitz. At the end Jack starts to cut the picture with his knife, and Lulu is not sad: she is happy, because he is destroying the graven image that should never have been made.

"And I think this biblical term, "graven image", has a special relevance, because in our "atheistic" 20th century—I call it so ironically—our gods are the pin-up girls, the film stars, the sex objects. Lulu is a victim of this, a victim of our culture, and so she is relieved when her image is destroyed." Is there then a connexion with Schoenberg's unfinished opera? "Yes indeed. I'm very influenced by *Moses und Aron*, and of course one must remember that Berg dedicated *Lulu* to Schoenberg."

Salome, Moses, what else? Davis is impressed by how the music itself "teems with allusions: those fourths and fifths out of *Tosca*, and just the other day someone found a bit of *Lehar* in it". But perhaps the most intriguing connexion is with that other sex tragedy *Don Giovanni*. "Don Giovanni", says Friedrich, "is asocial, like Lulu, except that he starts from the top and she starts from the bottom. Both have no religion, no allegiances: they look for their own ways in this stupid world. Lulu takes the terrible way up to become the wife of the famous Dr Schön, and then she returns to the street to find her grisly death at the hands of her Commendatore, Jack the Ripper, also from the street."

Paul Griffiths

Books

The Imitation Game

By Ian McEwan

(Jonathan Cape £5.95)

You can't keep a good man down, but you can, alas, a good play. Is there not some slight incongruity between the amount of time, talent and money expended on a BBC play and the amount of time subsequently allocated for its enjoyment by the nation?

"Have you seen *Amadeus* yet?"—"No. We're going next week." "Did you see *My Dear Palestrina*?"—"Damn. Missed it." Unless a play wins an award, or unless it is surrounded by a tremendous burst of friendly publicity, there is no guarantee that it will get even one repeat before the BBC's rights to it lapse and it finally spins off into oblivion.

Some plays, it is true, are awful (though none sink to the level of much that passes for "family viewing"). Many, especially at present, are technically and thematically interesting. Over the past two years quite a few have reached heights seldom attained by the London stage and never by the British film industry. (That truism again: television *is* the British film industry). Whether superbly mounted classic revivals, or bitingly topical plays for today, it seems monstrous that these productions should be denied the *Sons and Lovers* treatment—a quick and automatic repeat.

Ian McEwan's *The Imitation Game*, a bitingly topical play about yesterday, is waiting in this queue for justice. But McEwan is, independently of television, a hot literary property backed by an energetic publisher, so for his work there exists an alternative route into the collective memory. *The Imitation Game: Three Plays for Television by Ian McEwan*, with a short but illuminating introduction by their author, is to be published this week.

"I felt familiar with television's 'grammar', with its conventions and how they might be broken", he observes. As a short story writer he was attracted by its scale and its intimacy. His first play, a terse little comedy called *Jack Flea's Birthday Celebration* (1974), effortlessly stands naturalistic conventions on their head. Those who missed it will now have little difficulty in conjuring it up for themselves.

His second play, *Solid Geometry* (McEwan: "a little too neat, and at best simply clever"), was to be an adaptation of one of his most memorable short stories. The rest is history ... Readers who conjure up for themselves the way Albert conjured Maisie out of existence will reach their own judgment on the Corporation's subsequent behaviour. "Retributive and paranoid" is the judgment of the author.

Brimstone and Treacle, *Scum*, *Solid Geometry*: one sees why the BBC objected in each case, but when one surveys the plays which have been transmitted it is hard to escape the conclusion that the censoring guillotine has more to do with personalities than with fixed rules or objective principles.

"This was the novel I had wanted to write", McEwan remarks in the course of his fascinating account of the way *The Imitation Game* itself came into being. (One hopes this may be read by the lowest-common-denominator feminists who questioned him about it at a special screening at the Riverside Studios on Saturday.)

A novel is there on the page: is not a television script merely the equivalent of sheet music for a concert performance? Yes, but that is already a lot. One may, in this case, miss some of the crucial scoring by Richard Eyre's cameras, and in print the emphasis inevitably changes, but the mind's eye is not misled. Unlike the cinema, television is accepted as a writer's medium, and at the BBC the author's intentions are growing more, not less, sacrosanct.

Did you know that *Morgan: A Suitable Case for Treatment* was originally a BBC play? Do you remember the original television version of *Let's Murder Vivaldi*? David Mercer's *Collected TV Plays* are also about to be published (John Calder, two vols, £6.95 each). Some of the early ones come over, even now, with astonishing force.

Michael Church

Karl Valentin's Komiker Kabarett
Half Moon

Ned Chaillet

Among the names of the great clowns of the past century, with Grock and Chaplin, Popov and Harpo Marx, there has also been Karl Valentin. It has taken a while for his name to make an impact outside Germany, and his work has been known only by reputation to many of those who knew of his influence on the work of Bertolt Brecht. I know of at least one major London director, knowledgeable about things German, who tried to find a way of translating Valentin's comedy into English and finally despaired.

Umbrella Theatre, which first presented *Karl Valentin's Komiker Kabarett* two seasons ago at the Edinburgh Festival, had nothing in the way of financial resources when they took on the challenge, and part of the success there was the roughness of the translation, both into the English language and into English performances. Their smoother, and somewhat revised, revival at the Half Moon Theatre is stronger in some ways, but the roughness of the production by Colin Granger and David Lavender is still part of its charm.

Valentin was a beer-hall comedian, an originator in that already special blend of quirky skills that made up the German cabaret. If Eva Schiffer's translation, dutifully retaining the German names and German structure, finds a readier English appeal nowadays, it is partly because the oblique absurdity of the jokes does not seem so alien any more. His skits and stories seem at home in a world made in Monty Python's image.

Not all the performances settle naturally into the scatty material, although the translator, Miss Schiffer, herself drifts across the stage as a marvellously melancholy clown singing an endless song of nonsense rhymes. Other performers seem to deal with the writing best by standing outside it in a way which emphasizes the strength of the vision but deprives it of the funnier contradictions.

It is a splendid moment when a stage hand, instead of simply preparing the stage, begins to philosophize about the theatre, suggesting it should be made compulsory, like school, since people do not seem to like it, but it would be funnier if the actor really appeared as a crusty stagehand. But those faults have been anticipated in the production, where the pianist is a woman disguised as a man, as is the "apprentice expert," an electrician who argues with the director. The assembled package is a bit tawdry but very funny.

Bill Brandt: Nudes 1945-80
Marlborough Fine Art

John Russell Taylor

For those of us who somehow felt that Campden Hill was an area of quiet grace and refinement, Bill Brandt's new show (until February 28) has a few surprises in store. Clearly a lot of very odd things go on there, mainly to nude young women. Here there is one trussed and masked, which is presumably fairly routine. But what about that unfortunate lady one of whose arms appears to have turned unawares into a chicken wing? After all, we all remember what happened to Olga Baclanova at the end of *Freaks*. And it is no belittlement of these recent Brandt photographs to observe that they create much the same sort of cosmic unease as Tod Browning's masterpiece.

For Brandt has moved through the years, by gradual stages, from realism to surrealism. He still continues to print from his negatives of the 1930s, but whereas the contemporary prints of famous pictures like the two housemaids in a well-heeled domestic interior have a subdued smoky glow to them and a lot of delicate gradation, the recent prints are much starker, with coarser, more pronounced contrasts and little middle ground: Brandt's way of seeing his characters has moved closer to Genet's conception of his Maids than a J. B. Priestley view of the world. And this change of approach to his own past, not unexpectedly, reflects the more radical changes in his way of viewing the present.

While inevitably the photographer always, consciously or unconsciously, manipulates what he sees as he takes the photograph of it, Brandt seems in the 1930s to have fitted in with a generally social-realist tradition. Since the war he has turned more and more to staging his subjects rather than finding them. In the 1950s he became preoccupied—a preoccupation which still persists—with the light and shade and the curious, rather unfriendly textures of cliffs and rocky, pebbly beaches. Sometimes for themselves, sometimes as an unexpected decor for nudes which are frequently little more than just another, softer texture, just another, more rounded shape in a composition which approaches abstraction. There is one photograph, for instance, in which the central feature is a woman's body, sitting bent forward, seen from behind in such a way that it seems to become one with its environment, like some large and curiously but not impossibly shaped pebble. There is another in which the fingers of two hands, in giant close-up resting on pebbles, hover ambiguously in our imagination between stone and seaweed.

There is seldom anything definably erotic about the nudes from what one might call Brandt's formalist phase. But of late things have changed again. The recent nudes in interiors are, among other things, quite clearly women viewed as objects of sexual interest. They are also more evidently placed in dramatic situations, as though acting out private fantasies. There is something theatrical about them (Theatre of Cruelty, perhaps), and with them the classic progression of many modern painters is complete: realist; formalist; surrealist. Without doubt Brandt is a major artist, still at the peak of his form.

Not much for lovers

Steinitz Bach Players
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Stephen Pettitt

"Music for Epiphany III and St Valentine's Day", as this concert mostly of Bach cantatas was enticingly proclaimed, contained little for starry-eyed lovers. Cantata no 73's opening words, *Herr, wie du will*, translate as "Lord, as thou wilt, so do with me/In life and in death's anguish", while Cantata no 90, *Es reifet euch ein schrecklich Ende*, is about the end of the world and no 178, *Wo Gott der Herr nicht bei uns hält*, is a stern warning against false prophets. Cupid was conspicuous by his absence.

Whether they were seasonal or not, Paul Steinitz, who conducted, offered us much fine music with these early Leipzig cantatas. The 60 singers of the London Bach Society were scarcely taxed by their half-dozen chorales, and neither was Shelagh Molyneux who sang the only soprano recitative (in no 73) of the concert. Christopher Robson, an alto with a ringing tones, also had a relatively easy time, dealing efficiently with the recitatives in nos 90 and 178.

Things were more challenging for tenor and bass. Richard Morton, the former, displayed a smooth yet powerful voice, alas marred by sounds of strain at the top of his register. The opening aria of no 90 saw Bach's quirky, dramatic lines forcing him to exploit all his technical facility. John Noble, the bass, warmed after his aria in no 73, an agonized submission to God's will which rather dragged its feet. Once settled, his voice proved over-large, the "boisterous waves of the sea" invoked by him in no 178 threatening to drown all.

Of interest to those hoping for something more amorous was the first London performance of Schütz's *Stehe auf, meine Freundin*, unearthed a decade ago. Showing a rather stiff passion, this setting for double chorus of verses from the Song of Solomon was sung with unfocused sound and suffered additionally from some unstylish orchestration. Happily, the bite which would have helped its cause was given us in Bach's Concerto for oboe and violin, BWV 1060, where despite occasional rough edges Tess Miller's exemplary oboe playing combined with Simon Standage's subtle refinement on the violin to give the most satisfying performance of the evening.

When will Turkey's 'pashas' hand over to the politicians?

A broad spectrum of opinion in Turkey believes today that elections for a return to parliamentary democracy should be expected towards the end of 1982. However, the country's ruling generals adamantly refuse to be pinned down to a date.

"The 1960 revolution lost control the day it announced an election date in advance", one of the key generals of the regime told me. "We shall not make the same mistake."

Clearly, what annoys the "pashas" (generals) is that their intentions and good faith should be put in doubt, especially by foreigners. "There was no alternative", this general said. "It is not willingly that we took over. We are trying to wipe the slate clean for a new and fertile democratic life. Then, we go."

My meeting with one of the country's six ruling generals had been arranged at a private luncheon in a house just outside Ankara. He agreed to be interviewed on condition that he should remain unnamed—first, in deference to his colleagues; secondly, to avoid setting a precedent for the domestic and foreign press.

"I am a simple soldier," he said, "And when the time comes I shall retire. We have no ambition other than to see this nation happy again." He was speaking on behalf of the ruling "National Security Council", which is headed by General Kenan Evren, the Chief of Staff as Head of State, the four service chiefs, and General Haydar Saltik, as Secretary-General.

Turkey's military leaders tend to take a very black-and-white view of two serious problems facing the regime: they believe that terrorism was primarily implanted here by "invisible" foreign powers bent on destabilizing the region; and they attribute Western criticism of their regime to bad faith among the "heavily infiltrated" news media and fellow-travelling parliamentarians.

"We have a saying in Turkish," the general said: "It is easy for a bachelor to divorce". It is just as easy to make suggestions about Turkey from outside where life is peaceful, the economic future secure, and society stable. But what do you do when your country faces a full-scale catastrophe?"



Turkey's "pashas"—the generals of the ruling National Security Council.

The generals' motives are not questioned only by foreigners; they are questioned also by Turkey's dispossessed politicians both on the left and right. And the paradox is that both sides suspect the ease with which the generals, who seized power only five months ago, managed to curb terrorism, the country's biggest plague for 12 years. Why, they ask, did they not try just as hard in the 20 months of martial law before the coup?

"We were sick of the squabbling of the politicians," the general said. He put his case forcefully: "All they did was talk, talk, talk. They never gave the martial law commanders the powers they needed to stamp out political violence."

Today the authorities can detain suspects for 90 days without charges, and shoot to kill if an order to surrender is not obeyed. But it was the evenhanded way with which the regime dealt with both right and left extremists that was its greatest asset. The general said: "the security forces feel freer because there are no political pressures."

How much freer? I ventured; enough, perhaps, to violate human rights? One had heard too many horror stories about torture. Can they all be false? The general did not bristle up. He took the question in his stride.

"The other night," he replied, "I watched on television an episode of *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy* where the suspect displayed, on the following morning, a big black eye. It happens in the United Kingdom. It happens in the United States. It happens elsewhere in Europe.

"You have to get to the roots of terrorism," he insisted. "And you do not get answers or confessions laughingly, with piped-in music. But if there is ever a denunciation of torture or brutality, an investigation is ordered promptly. We have so far investigated eight cases that were reported to us."

The general felt genuinely puzzled by reactions in Western Europe. He attributed this hostility to methodical left-wing propaganda. "We do not have enough talent to make counter-propaganda" he complained.

"But we do say to our critics frankly: please come to this country. Do not make your judgment from abroad. If you see anything wrong, let us discuss it freely. If we make mistakes. We are willing to correct them."

The truth is that popular relief at the military takeover continues to be just as pervasive in this country as it was five months ago. The explanation offered by Turkish politicians is that the horrors of terrorism have distorted the scale of political values, law and order prevailing over the love of freedom.

Yet, one can sense a nascent impatience in the country, although it is difficult to tell whether this is because the Turks expect of their generals to work instant miracles. And despite some tangible accomplishments towards restoring public order and the economy, they have yet to conjure up any miracles.

The success of the country's economic stabilization plan, in fact, depends largely on Western economic help, and the regime feels confident that, despite a growing impatience in Europe, this aid will not be cut off for political reasons. The General said: "they would not want to see Turkey out of Europe."

The warning was implicit. But he refused to elaborate. He said instead: "If our allies help us, the regime's duration will be shortened—our economic problems will be stabilized, and our political difficulties overcome earlier."

General Evren announced in a speech in Konya last month that between August 30 and October 29 (Victory Day and Republic Day) a constituent assembly would be set up to prepare the new constitution.

What shocked the politicians, however, was not so much his declaration that they would be excluded from the assembly, but the implied warning that they might also be barred from politics forever.

Apparently no firm decision has been taken by the ruling council. The general said that in General Evren's view all the members of the last Parliament should be disqualified by a rider in the new constitution. The political parties would be allowed to continue, except those that the constitutional court might close down for specific violations of penal code provisions on secularism and civil strife.

The "pashas" are very conscious of the errors committed by previous military leaders during their forays into politics. And they are determined to protect themselves from these pitfalls. One danger is to quit before their self-assigned job is done: "We want to be sure that another intervention will not be needed in a couple of years," the General said.

Another risk of course, is of a coup within a coup, as was attempted after the 1960 revolution. The General volunteered: "It simply cannot be done. The September 12 operation was staged by the top hierarchy of the armed forces and the chain of command remains unbroken."

None the less the longer the generals stay, the greater the temptation for other officers to try their hands. The pashas are aware of this, so as soon as the constitution is endorsed by the electorate, the assembly will vote the new laws on the political parties and the electoral system. After a period of time for the political parties to prepare, there will be elections.

"What we aspire for this country," the general said, summing up, "Is a democracy built on such firm foundations that, I hope, our successors in the next generation will not blame us the way we now blame our predecessors."

Mario Modiano

Peter Jay

The opposite is also true

Sir Isiah Berlin used to say in his lectures—or at least he said in one lecture—that when a man speaks of the need for realism one may always be sure that this is the prelude to some bloody deed. So, too when a political leader speaks of the need to adhere to the existing "long term strategy" one may usually be sure that this is the prelude to an abrupt about face in the here and now, all the more when such talk is accompanied by elaborate explanations of the necessity for flexible, short term tactical adjustments to take account of changed circumstances.

Nor, for the about face to be complete and lasting, does such a leader need to have Sir Harold Wilson's uniquely nimble talent for retracing his steps rapidly while continuing to face in the original direction, menacing the very forces in the face of which he is rapidly withdrawing brandishing fist, voluble threats and all other gestures appropriate to fearless attack. But when it comes as in the Prime Minister's answers to questions in Parliament last Thursday, to the selective endorsement of Mr Francis Pym's early homily on the merits and need for tactical flexibility in new circumstances, the existing records set by Sir Harold in the art of protesting too much no longer look unbreakable.

Whatever any one else may have deduced from Mr Pym's speech, the Prime Minister's recollection was emphatic: "The most enduring safeguard against unemployment will be the elimination of inflation. We must not abandon the long term strategic approach we believe in".

This will doubtless suggest to cynics that the "long term strategic approach" is about to suffer the fate of other sacred relics: to be embalmed, honoured, disregarded and finally forgotten. They will presume that the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in preparation for his budget speech next month, will be studying with avid attention the dexterity with which the new President of the United States is apparently preparing to apply the good old Keynesian remedy of boosting the Federal budget deficit substantially, to more than $100,000m in the face of the gathering American recession while continuing to talk the language of fiscal stringency and sound money.

Of course in the United States President Reagan has the benefit of the Central Bank which, broadly, both knows how to keep some rough control over the money supply and mainly believes in actually doing so. So the actual consequences of his fiscal reflation combined with tight money are more likely to be high interest rates and even more depressed industrial and housing investment than to be the surge in growth and fall in unemployment which the new official forecasters in Washington are beginning to canvas.

But the interesting point here is that in the Reagan version of neo-conservative economics the Pym-Thatcher doctrine is inverted. Instead of the elimination of inflation being the most enduring safeguard against unemployment, we are told that the surge in growth that will come from lower taxes and higher defence spending cash—and thus the elimination of high unemployment—is to pave the way for a dramatic fall in inflation, no doubt there after becoming the most enduring safeguard against it.

For about a quarter of century after the war it was conventionally believed that there was a reasonably stable trade off between inflation and unemployment and that, therefore, within certain limits more inflation meant less unemployment. We then discovered from painful experience that this was essentially untrue.

Then we discovered that unemployment had a strongly marked tendency to gravitate to its own uncomfortably high level and that it took faster and faster bouts of inflation to budge it even temporarily below that level.

The important practical conclusion for policy was that it was better to regard unemployment and inflation as independently determined by different influences and therefore to apply appropriate remedies to each (monetary and fiscal restraint to inflation; pay restraint and greater labour market efficiency to unemployment) and to disregard the purely temporary and short term interactions between inflation and unemployment as ephemeral and therefore misleading.

In short, policy should reject the premise that more inflation means less unemployment. This rejection was supposed to have been a lesson which those political leaders who regard themselves as 'moneytarists' had absorbed. But it seems that a lesson in logic as well as economics was necessary, in particular, in the difference between the logical relationships between contraries and between contradictories.

The logical connexion between two contrary propositions is that they cannot both be true, although they can both be false. From the truth of one the falsity of the other can be inferred; but from the falsity of one the truth of the other cannot be inferred. Two contradictory propositions, on the other hand, cannot both be true and cannot both be false; and therefore, from the truth or falsity of one the falsity or truth of the other can be inferred.

Now it seems that the Prime Minister having rightly rejected as false the proposition that more inflation means less unemployment, has now embraced, not its contradictory (namely that more inflation does not mean less unemployment) but its contrary, namely *that less inflation means less* unemployment. Thus she quoted approvingly from Mr Pym: "The attack on inflation is an attack on unemployment."

But being contrary and not contradictory propositions, it is quite possible that both (more inflation means less unemployment; and less inflation means less unemployment) are false. From the falsity of the first, the truth of the second does not follow.

More to the point, the second is essentially untrue, as well as being unnecessary and unhelpful to the justification of the government's intention to bring down inflation by fiscal and monetary means. (The ability of it and its agencies to implement these means may be quite a different matter.)

It should be quite enough to say that, beyond the short term, less inflation does not mean more unemployment. It may well be fair to add that the high unemployment which is associated with the first stages of bringing down the rate of inflation in the short term is itself merely a reflection of unemployment previously averted by accelerating the rate of *inflation in the short term*. But that is not at all the same thing as saying that in any stable or enduring sense either more inflation or less inflation means less unemployment.

What remains at the end of the day therefore should be the question. "Very well, how then is unemployment to be reduced, given that this will not be achieved by regulating inflation either upwards or downwards and that, therefore, a low rather than a high rate of inflation may as well be preferred for its own sake?"

This is the issue to which both the *government and its* critics need to give the fullest attention for its own sake. Merely to have graduated from believing that more inflation means less unemployment to supposing that less inflation means less unemployment has contributed nothing to the development of a long term strategy, for employment. By parity of reasoning equally little would be achieved by a 'U-turn' from the new mistake back again to the old mistake.

The rows that went into the building of New Delhi

In these days, when British imperialism is as unfashionable as Prohibition, it is difficult to imagine that exactly 50 years ago the British were celebrating the completion of a new capital for Imperial India. The week until February 15 1931 had seen what was described as a "merely domestic" affair, but the celebrations were extravagant in the traditional Indian style.

The beginning of the week had seen a garden party, a banquet and a reception at the new Viceregal Lodge. A 31-gun salute had accompanied the unveiling of the four Dominion Columns, each topped by a gilt merchant ship. There was an RAF display at dusk.

A people's fete featured a parade with six elephants in warpaint, dancing bears, bullock carts and the camel carriage of the Governor of the Punjab. The Royal Irish Fusiliers played Sousa marches, a rainbow appeared as if by design, and in the evening there were fireworks on the banks of the Jumna.

The celebrations were as much in relief as in pride in the new city, for the project had been wracked with misfortune from the start. At George V's Coronation Durbar in 1911, he had announced the intention to move the winter seat of government from Calcutta to a new capital more worthy of India's place in the British Empire. While he was there, the king laid the foundation stone of the new city to the northeast of old Delhi.

Although Lord Curzon opposed the idea on grounds of cost, there was a lot to be said for abandoning Calcutta and, eventually the tin-roofed Simla. Sir Edwin Lutyens had visited Simla and written: "If one was told the monkeys had built it one would have said—what wonderful monkeys. They must be shot in case they do it again." A commission was appointed, which included Lutyens, to recommend a site and make preliminary plans for the new city.

Although Lutyens was prominent in the commission and was eager to design and build the central grand government buildings himself, it was by no means certain that he would be chosen. The Viceroy, Lord Hardinge, was a close friend of the architect H. V. Lanchester, who might have made New Delhi like his cumbersome Central Hall, Westminster.

It was suggested at one stage that the main buildings might be put to competition, as was common for such an expensive public building project.

To outflank this move, Lutyens, who in 1912 was asked to design the Viceroy's Lodge, nominated as his partner the architect of the new government buildings in Pretoria, Sir Herbert Baker.

The look of Delhi today and the history of the building of the city would have been very different if Lutyens had chosen to help him Sir Arthur Blomfield, the architect of the Royal College of Music, as he was tempted to do.

The building of New Delhi was blighted from the start. No sooner had the work begun when the First World War delayed progress, adding to the cost. Before long the expense of the project was a matter of public debate and many of the plans had to be continually revised to bring them within a tight budget.

In the 20 years the city took to build, there were a number of Viceroys, each with their own ideas on what the buildings should look like. And during that time there were political changes which necessitated a more responsive attitude towards the wishes of the Indians and of their national aspirations.

But the central difficulty in building the city was the breakdown in the relationship between Lutyens and Baker. By 1913 they had begun arguing over shared expenses and before long were to fall out completely over how New Delhi should look. They shared a house but were quickly not on speaking terms and the long sea journeys between India and Europe which they took together were silent.

The major disagreement was over the main group of buildings at the end of the King's Way, what the original plans, drawn up by Lutyens, had envisaged as a triumphal avenue, rather like the Champs Elysées, running from a war memorial arch, to be designed by Lutyens, to the Viceregal Lodge.

After elephant tours of Delhi's surrounding countryside the founding commission had chosen a flat site for New Delhi to the south of the old city. Lord Hardinge, the Viceroy in 1912, agreed on the site in principle but decided that the Viceroy's house should be built on a low hill, giving a splendid view along the King's Way across to the far bank of the River Jumna.

Lutyens agreed, imagining that the government secretariat buildings, which Baker would design, would be at the bottom of the hill. Baker insisted, however, that his two buildings, which would flank the King's Way in two arms to the front of the Viceregal Lodge, should be built on the same level, forcing Lutyens to move the lodge further back.

Most important then became the angle of the gradient leading from the King's Way to the Viceregal Lodge. In a hurry, Lutyens had signed a memo which determined the gradient of the slope and did not realize his mistake until the work had been completed. Driving along the King's Way, all except the dome of the Viceregal Lodge disappeared from view.

When Lutyens cried foul, Baker forbade a change, claiming that his buildings would be isolated from the road if the slope was made more gentle. The need for economies worked in Baker's favour.

Other changes favoured Baker. The political climate ensured that equal prominence should be given to both the Viceregal Lodge and the new circular Parliament building, which Baker was to design. The rise in Indian national awareness also allowed Baker to add fussy Indian details of elephants and lotuses, in contrast to Lutyens's preference for circles and clean geometric shapes.

Lutyens's designs also tended to be expensive. His plans for bungalows faced in white marbles were vetoed on grounds of cost, while Baker's residences, which Lutyens called "bungle-ohs", were approved. Lutyens was forced to work for Maharajas who could afford him.

Lutyens at least triumphed over the name of the new city. When a committee sat to ponder, the names Georgebad and Marypore were suggested. When Lutyens countered with Bedlampore and Ooziepore, it was decided to call it New Delhi.

Nor can there be any doubt about the beauty and wonder of Lutyens's Viceregal Lodge. It remains today a spectacular palace, now renamed Rathstrapati Bhavan, and is the official residence of India's president. The splendid ballroom, the Durbar hall, where Lord Louis Mountbatten granted India its independence, the Mughal gardens, the private apartments and the furniture, all made especially in India to designs by Lutyens, testify to his genius.

Lawn mowing by bullock at the presidential mansion, or Rathstrapati Bhavan, in New Delhi.

Nicholas Wapshott

The gentrification of Harlem

Jeffrey Rouault, a 30-year-old Manhattan lawyer, offers his guests port from a decanter and speaks with justifiable pride of the Victorian terraced house he has lived in for a year. He points out his nineteenth century landscape paintings, from the Mohawk River School of upstate New York.

He explains how he has decorated the rooms in 13 carefully selected colours. On the garden floor, the dining room boasts a large antique table and victorian standard chairs, the wine rack in the corner is well stocked.

"I have," he says proudly, "held some big and elegant receptions here."

Nothing newsworthy about that, you might think. Here is a young man doing what comes naturally, showing aff his nice new house to a visitor. Except that the house is in the centre of Harlem, the black capital of America, where through most of the 1960s and 1970s white people were frightened to wander, let alone to live.

Rouault is one of perhaps a score of white people who in the past year or two have ventured into Harlem to take over some of the best turn-of-the-century houses in New York. In other parts of the city the terraces have been pulled down to make way for bigger buildings or have been "improved" almost beyond recognition.

In Harlem, street after street of the houses, called brownstones after the soft brown sandstone of which many are built, remain in something like their original form, though often dilapidated. Adventurous whites with a pioneering spirit and an eye for a bargain are beginning to move in.

Despite predictable difficulties, Rouault at least is glad he did.

"I wouldn't suggest that two middle-aged ladies of retiring disposition come to live here", he said. "But I love it. Where else could I afford all this space?" The house, built in 1880, measures 60ft by 25ft and has five floors.

"And the transportation is excellent. It's half an hour by subway to the Wall Street area, quarter of an hour to Times Square and less to the Lincoln Centre." (The Lincoln Centre, just north of the theatre district, is the city's main venue for concerts, opera and ballet.)

He used to live in a cooperatively owned apartment and found his new house while exploring Harlem on his bicycle. He paid $25,000 for the brownstone and has spent perhaps three times that on repairing and decorating it.

The house faces Mount Morris Park, a small, tree-shaded space, crowded in summer, whose main feature is a cast-iron fire tower from the middle of the nineteenth century. It is less than a five-minute walk from the subway station at 125th Street and Lenox Avenue, one of Harlem's focal points.

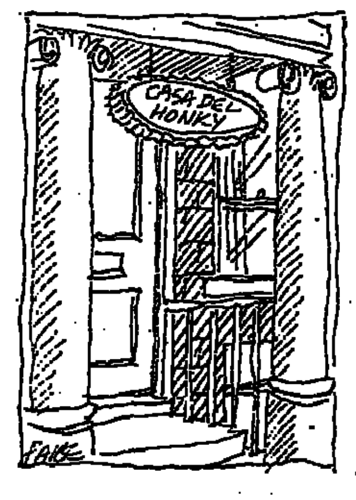
To get to the subway he must pass the corner of 124th Street where, in all weathers, man and women loiter for what seem nefarious purposes. Conscious of the pervasive impression that Harlem is unsafe for white strangers, Rouault carried out his own test before completing the purpose.

He dressed up in his best court clothes and loitered round the area to see what would happen. Nothing did.

"It would be stupid to move my home to a place where I'm afraid to go about in normal clothes," he observed.

The house has been burgled once since he moved in, but such occurrences are common all over the city and suburbs. He has never been attacked in the street and only once involved in a racial incident, with a customer at the local cafe.

What of his neighbours? He gets on well with those in one of the houses next to his, but has poor relations with the people on the other side, which he reckons is about average.



"I've lived in New York 10 years and I've never got to know any of my neighbours, especially in the snooty co-op building I was in before this."

As for friends from other parts of New York, they fall into three categories: those who are fascinated by the area and will visit him whenever they have the chance; those who are a bit nervous but will make the effort; and those "Who won't come up without a posse".

"The people I have real respect and affection for will come up without any trouble." he says. Most taxi drivers will now take him home. Five years ago he would have found it hard to get one to do so.

The truth is that the streets of Harlem have become much safer in the past five years and one long-time resident explained why. Laconia Smedley, a voice and music teacher, is the leader of the Tenants' Association at Graham Court, one of the most fashionable apartment buildings in the city when it was built for wealthy whites in 1901.

Smedley has lived there for 20 years and says: "Its got a lot better since the city started the methadone programme". (methadone is a drug distributed free to former heroin users.)

"In the late 60s and 70s the people on the streets needed the money for drugs and they would victimize anyone. Now there's methadone they don't need it."

Like many Harlem residents, Smedley is apprehensive at the prospect of an influx of middle-class whites.

"It's not so much the fear of white people moving in as it is the fear of losing our cultural identity, the ethnic spirit that each race has", he said.

"I like the feeling of being with black people. There's a difference in the way we celebrate life. We have more colour and energy.

"There's a heritage and a culture here. It's a living community with a lot of things to it. We feel a certain kinship. And then some people feel that if the whites move in they wouldn't be able to afford to stay here: They'd be priced out."

Yet Smedley concedes that in some respects the gentrification of Harlem could be beneficial, by bringing monied people into an area where many survive on government welfare payments. It is also a declining area: the population of a quarter of a million is roughly half what it was when he first lived there.

Nearly half the property in Harlem is owned by the city. If a landlord is behind with his taxes, the city simply seizes his building and eventually sells it to someone else.

Most properties that the city has thus acquired are tenements or apartment buildings. A few, however, are brownstones and 13 of them are soon to be put on to the market.

Exactly how these potentially valuable houses should be disposed of has been the subject of agonized debate at City Hall. Mr Robert Davis, the deputy Housing Commissioner, explained that, while conscious of the desire of Harlem's residents that it should remain a predominantly black community, he could not simply bar whites from bidding.

He pointed to a poster on his office wall which read: "Discrimination: It's illegal." Then he asked:

"How can you at one moment say your objective is fair housing and at the next say that the opportunity to buy these houses must be restricted to one ethnic group? What would stop people in an all-white community saying the same thing? It's a dangerous precedent."

Davis's solution is a lottery which gives Harlem residents a three-to-one advantage over outsiders of any colour. Any present resident who applies has his name put into the hat three times, as against once for outsiders.

This will not necessarily stop white buyers. If, for instance, 300 whites and only 100 blacks applied for the houses (ranging) in price from $5,000 to $40,000), the odds would be equal as between black and white buyers.

Davis thinks the new white interest in Harlem is a compliment to its newly revived spirit. "People are really talking about Harlem again", he said. "It's back on the map. People feel good about things up there now. I call it the second Harlem renaissance."

The first Harlem renaissance was an artistic movement of the 1920s, about a dozen years after blacks began to move into what had formerly been a good-class white suburb.

Rouault is less sanguine than Davis about the reason for the whites moving into Harlem. "People are going to move here not because they want to", he said. "Nobody *wants* to move here.

"They do it because of economic necessity. They have to. There is a finite and diminishing supply of housing."

He believes it will be beneficial to the area: crime will decrease, civil services improve, and there may even one day be schools to which middle-class white parents will want to send their children.

The shops may get better, too. "At the moment there is no demand for those elegant products for which New York is famous", he complains.

When the high fashion boutiques and the gourmet food shops move north of 110th Street, we will know times have changed. Rouault is sure they will. "It's only a matter of time", he predicts.

Michael Leapman

هكذا من الأصل

TIMES PAST THE TIMES
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NOT WITH ONE VOICE

A clear gap has developed between the ways in which different members of the present Government defend its record and approach. Nobody listening to Mrs Thatcher's speech to the Young Conservative conference at Eastbourne over the weekend could fail to detect the distinction in tone between her comments and the recent remarks of Lord Thorneycroft, the party chairman, and Mr Francis Pym, who is not only Leader of the House of Commons but also acts as the administration's spokesman extraordinary.

Lord Thorneycroft and Mr Pym have been reasserting the Conservative claim to be the party of the centre. Lord Thorneycroft did so explicitly when he spoke to the Parliamentary Press Gallery last week. Mr Pym did so by implication when he said at Putney that "common sense tells us that changed circumstances make adjustments necessary in both tactics and timing to meet altered conditions". They were both seeking credit for the political virtue of pragmatism. Mrs Thatcher, by contrast, after the merest genuflection towards pragmatism, was eager to present herself once again as a "conviction politician": "We are not merely a pragmatic party, responding to situations as they arise. We have a deeply held conviction of the kind of society we want to see".

There are certainly policy differences between Mrs Thatcher and some of her colleagues. But that is not evident when one compares her speech with those delivered last week by Lord Thorneycroft and Mr Pym. They would not dissent from her declaration that "the conquest of inflation has to be our first economic priority", even though they would tend to be less single-minded in pursuing that objective. The policy gap was probably most evident during Mr Prior's speech at Eastbourne. Mrs Thatcher must surely have had some sympathy with those members of the conference who gave him a rough ride for being too soft on the unions. But all the signs suggest that Mr Prior has won his battle within the Cabinet to handle trade union affairs his way. The gap between Mrs Thatcher and some of her colleagues that matters at this time is essentially one of presentation.

This is by no means as doctrinal an administration as Mrs Thatcher would seem to believe, or as her critics allege. It has not cut public expenditure as one would have expected from Conservative campaign rhetoric. On the contrary, it is pouring additional money into British Leyland and the British Steel Corporation. It has not managed to control the money supply, yet it has reduced interest rates a bit and Mrs Thatcher has hinted that it will cut them again soon. Unemployment is high, but the Government has at least tried to combat the worst effects with such schemes as the Youth Opportunities Programme. There is now an incomes policy of a sort in the public sector and the approach to trade union reform has been decidedly cautious.

Yet much of this is obscured by the frequent proclamations that there will be no U-turn. No government could be popular in the present economic conditions, and no government at the present time would have been able to make these conditions much more favourable. To some extent, though, unpopularity has been courted. Behind a smokescreen of doctrine a good deal of pragmatic activity has been taking place, but because Mrs Thatcher has given the impression of being more attached to the smokescreen than to the pragmatism the Government is often blamed for bringing about deliberately what in fact it could not avoid.

It is this damaging impression that Lord Thorneycroft and Mr Pym have been principally concerned to correct. It is no coincidence that they are the two people in and around the Cabinet —Lord Thorneycroft is not actually a member, though he was in the Shadow Cabinet during the days of Opposition— who are most responsible for presenting the party to the public. Their anxiety has undoubtedly been increased by the phenomenon of the social democrats. They are right to be worried. Elsewhere in Europe Conservative parties do not have the same mass support as in this country, and there is no immutable law of politics which decrees that the British Conservatives would maintain their appeal if they were faced with a substantial party of the centre or very moderate left.

There are, therefore, strong electoral grounds for the Government presenting itself as a more pragmatic administration. But there is another reason why it should do so. The British are not a doctrinaire people. They have only a strictly limited taste for radical solutions. If there is to be the necessary public consent for the measures necessary at a time of economic difficulty it will be secured more readily by a Government that does not pretend to be more wedded to doctrine than it is.

ZIMBABWE STILL FIGHTS TRIBALISM

A week of fighting started by a beerhall brawl and ending with perhaps as many as 250 dead has shown how frail are relations between the followers of Mr Mugabe and Mr Nkomo. Bad as the fighting has been, however, it has not — or not yet — approached the scale of an all-out tribal civil war. It was widely predicted, especially by white Rhodesians, that this would supervene as soon as an African government was installed: the clock would spin back to the pre-Cecil Rhodes era, when fighting between Ndebele and Shona groups was endemic — and indeed created the divisions upon which the white colonizers were able to build their supremacy. What happened this week was much worse than the inter-tribal rioting in Bulawayo in December, but it is far from certain that a further escalation is to come.

It is clear that the accelerated programme of retraining Mr Mugabe's and Mr Nkomo's ex-guerrillas and welding them into one national army has had a bad setback. This will be a blow to the British retraining team which was being pressed to produce three mixed Zanla-Zipra battalions a month, and a warning to Mr Mugabe and his army staff that there are limits to the process in Zimbabwe conditions. For the fighting was not merely between guerrilla groups; it also flared up between elements of national army formations which simply split apart and took sides with their co-tribesmen. In these dangerous circumstances Mr Mugabe found that the only force on which he could rely to put down both factions were the remaining units of the old Rhodesian forces, led mainly by white officers. He showed his courage by not hesitating a moment before ordering his former enemies to put out the fire. This worked, and it looks as if he now has a breathing space.

It was too readily assumed that once the war against the white regime ended, large numbers of the guerrillas would quickly be resettled on the land. This did not happen for several reasons. Resettlement, even of African husbandmen, takes time and capital in any conditions, and the problem is complicated in a country ravaged by war. It was impossible to dump them on sequestrated white farmland if production of food was not to drop to famine levels and much-needed foreign investors were not to be scared away so that urban unemployment and unrest redoubled. The population of Zimbabwe is also rapidly growing and many guerrillas are landless men who have never farmed anything. The absorptive power of the land is limited.

Furthermore Africans enjoy being in the Army—almost any army. The standard of living is high compared with any other occupation and a gun in the hand excites feelings of power. It took the Nigerians many years to trim down their overblown army after their civil war, and they had no reintegration problem since the rebels had no claim to rejoin the forces from which they split off. Armies everywhere in Africa have great, even cancerous, vitality and control or influence politics in every state. Even a fully integrated national army will be a headache for Mr Mugabe for many years.

His immediate task however is to restart integration unless he decides to have a showdown with the Ndebele by trying forcibly to disarm them, with all the bloodshed that that would entail. They have already seen in Mr Nkomo's cabinet demotion a stage in the process of rendering them, as a minority, second class citizens. African precedents suggest that in the end that is what they will become, unless tribal consciousness can be eroded all round. Unfortunately, tribal feelings with such deep roots in the African personality show few signs of diminution in post-colonial Africa. Running an African state means managing it and balancing it tribally, an art Mr Mugabe has to learn and apply to his own state. Only if that can be done will Zimbabwe's great potential be realized.

David Wood

High cost of ECC's Tower of Babel

One very good thing and one very appallingly bad thing happened to the European Parliament in the past few days. The good thing was the visit of President Sadat of Egypt to use the Parliament as the platform for launching his *démarche* to keep the Camp David agreement alive and to add a European dimension, even to the extent of a peace-keeping force, to any settlement of the Palestinian problem.

Nothing could have been more flattering to the MEPs gathered (perhaps for the last time) in Luxembourg than to be the chosen audience for the Sadat exercise in the higher diplomacy; and most of them, if you ignore a group of churlish Communists, were saying that the visit at last placed the under-rated Parliament in the full beam of the international limelight. Television cameras, radio microphones, and journalistic reinforcements were all there to mark the importance of President Sadat's visit and his speech—a courteous opening paragraph in French, repeated in German, and the rest in English.

Not, as it chances, that the European Parliament has any responsibility for foreign policy, or any particular influence upon the national governments of the Ten that are responsible individually and sometimes collectively for foreign policy. That brings us to the bad thing that happened.

Newspapers, especially British newspapers, got hold of the fact that 36 MEPs, had flown first class to Bogotá, for a week accompanied by a retinue of interpreters, cashiers, secretaries, and protocol experts bringing the total team to 103. The cost to European Community funds has been put at £250,000. The Parliament was butchered to make a Fleet Street holiday. Why Bogotá when so much is wrong in the Community itself? How many more such trips ("junkets" was the favoured word) had been planned?

In public MEPs defended themselves as best they could, without succeeding in hiding their sense of guilt. Yes, another delegation would soon go to Japan, led by Sir Fred Warner, the former British Ambassador in Tokyo, and a second very large one to Sierra Leone. Nobody denied that the European Parliament carried no responsibility for foreign policy, though it is and will increasingly be concerned with external trade; and overseas parliamentary visits are a normal and necessary part of trade relations for what is now the largest trading block in the world.

All that was designed to put a decent public face on a "scandal" that most MEPs, especially the British contingent, knew could never be justified to an electorate on hard tack. Privately, from the President down to the rank and file parliamentarians, it was recognized that there must not be another public relations mistake like Bogotá. Party group leaders in the managerial bureau showed their displeasure, without pronouncing any ruling to control future unnecessary spending, and a committee was asked to report—without reaching any impetuous conclusion.

But some action was taken. Sir Fred Warner severely cut the administrative tail of his Japanese delegation, and Mr Kenneth Collins said his delegation to the delights of his native Strathclyde would be strictly kept on short commons. Mrs Castle, leader of the British Socialist delegation, went on the warpath against the size of the Sierra Leone delegation. In fact, anti-Europeanists like Mrs Castle begin to exploit a scandal that turns out to be so much to the taste of the popular press, which never bothers to report their speeches in Parliament.

On the assumption that the European Parliament, like any other Parliament, will be all the better for knowing the world, it is reasonable to take for granted that there will continue to be delegations of MEPs overseas. But several questions need to be asked, and are already being asked. Would not a small delegation of six or 10 MEPs be as capable of reporting to their colleagues as a delegation of 36 or 60 members? Could not the host country, as is common when a national parliament sends delegates abroad, make itself responsible for interpretation and translation? In any impressively multi-lingual parliament, could not MEPs be chosen for specific visits because they speak the appropriate language?

Above all, as the Community grows from the Six to the Ten and soon to the Twelve, is there not an increasingly strong argument for cutting rising costs by limiting the number of "official" languages. With the entry of Greece there are now seven official languages, and the entry of Portugal and Spain during the 1980s will raise the total to nine. It is surely time to call a halt.

The definitive treaty language of the Community continues to be French. Therefore, apart from any predictable opinion President Giscard d'Estaing may have, French must stand first on any limited list, although my impression is that more French MEPs use English than French as their second language, including most Germans, the Dutch and the Danes. Nevertheless there is an argument for German and Italian. But why, as some MEPs now ask, go beyond the Community's Big Four?

The European Parliament's staffing and costs could be virtually halved, not only in respect of overseas delegations, by limiting the official languages to four. For it has to be remembered that every seat, in plenary session or in committee, has to be interpreted already into seven official languages, and then separately translated by linguists into documents. Interpreters and translators charge big fees and command high salaries. The Parliament's paper mountain towers over any of the mountains created by the Common Agricultural Policy. We all know in Brussels, Strasbourg and Luxembourg what it is like to live in a Tower of Babel since the 24 Greek MEPs joined and blessed upon us names, party labels, and speech typescripts that even the few classical scholars cannot begin to fathom.

Fortunately, the Irish are content with English and have not foisted Erse upon us. By that hangs a tale. An Irish official last week heard me stumbling on the telephone over the Erse spelling of an Irish president's name. He told me his own unspellable and unpronouncable Erse name, and then added: "But I'm known here as Billy Lee". The more Billy Lees the better in a multi-national parliament.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

In the forefront of the battle

From Mr Neville Sandelson, MP for Hillingdon, Hayes and Harlington, and Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East

Sir, Even coming from one so robustly expert in the art of image distortion as Mr Denis Healey, his reference as reported (February 14) to "humbug from the faint hearts who are planning to desert us just when the battle is at its fiercest" will be seen by most rational people, let alone historians of the future, as a classic example of conscious hypocrisy. Does one really have to ask Mr Healey where he was when the battles in recent years were raging and the "faint hearts", as he calls us, were doing what we could, in many a bruising affray, to resist the disastrous tide that was overtaking and taking over the Labour Party?

Perhaps for him, during the really decisive years, discretion was the better part of the valour and, as we have seen, he paid a bitter price because of it. If the battle is "at its fiercest" that can only be because of the crescendo of panic now felt by Mr Healey and others in the Parliamentary Party at the prospect of final disintegration.

It is no thanks to him that warfare within the party has developed on a wider front. It merely reflects the obvious reality that, for reasons of expediency rather than any earlier sense of principle and conviction, the Labour leadership is at last forced into making a stand.

But the real battles were fought on other fields from which Mr Healey was conspicuously absent. No one would be more esteemed by the whole nation if he were now to throw his considerable intellect and authority behind his natural political allies in the new social democratic movement.

Yours faithfully,
NEVILLE SANDELSON,
MIKE THOMAS,
House of Commons.
February 14.

Care of ancient buildings

From Mr Andrew Lloyd Webber

Sir, I believe anything that threatens our historic buildings must be resisted, and lack of access to them is deplorable. But I do not entirely share Dr A. J. Taylor's concern (January 31) that certain buildings may pass back into private hands.

Fountains Abbey is a case in point. How greatly it contrasts with Rievaulx, where the Department of the Environment have erected a large hut in the very centre of the vista from the eighteenth-century park on the hill above the abbey. One recalls the destruction of the garden at Hailes Abbey when it was under the DoE's care. This was a beautifully planted arrangement, marking out the plan of the church, which to me had greater aesthetic value than the mounds of masonry that are now revealed; Dom David Knowles's *Monastic Sites from the Air* shows us how things were at Hailes, where another hut has been constructed as a museum.

Then one observes that ancient monuments in the DoE's care tend to have notices firmly fixed to their walls telling us not to deface these walls, and that horrid-looking wooden staircases are installed so that people can climb up towers whose staircases have fallen down. I have visited Bayham Abbey recently and find its overgrown state a refreshing change from the municipal appearance of some of our finest ruins.

Of course the DoE's ancient monument department has the highest skill and craftsmanship, but I wonder whether the sort of private person or body who would want to own Fountains Abbey would look after it with a love no government department could, and probably be able to keep it open for longer. I doubt whether they would build an imposing hut in the garden.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER,
11 West Eaton Place, SW1.
February 2.

Suspected racial attacks

From the Chairman of the National Front

Sir, A necessary condition for the operation of the rule of law is that police officers are free from administrative direction by their political masters. During the last week we have seen the Home Secretary order an inquiry into "racialist organizations" and promise "consultation" with chief constables about the possible establishment of "special police units". The pretext for this thinly-disguised instruction to police chiefs to increase their harassment of the National Front is a report compiled by the Joint Committee Against Racialism of allegedly racialist attacks.

If the reported attacks really have taken place they are to be deplored, whether the motives were racial or not. However, it should be remembered that many supposedly racial attacks in the past, have later been found to have been the work of multiracial gangs (the attack on Bengali workers at the Charrington brewery in July, 1978, and the murders of Akab Ali and Gurdip Singh Chaggar). Furthermore even the BBC felt constrained to comment: "There is absolutely no evidence that the National Front as a body or as a political party, either instigates or sanctions such attacks, (Kent Barker, *The World This Weekend*, February 8).

If a substantial number of racial attacks *have* taken pace, then however deplorable, they are yet further evidence that the multiracial society has failed. The blame must surely attach to the architects of that society and not to those who have long prophesied its failure. If the perpetrators of such attacks can be discovered they must be prosecuted, but they must not be used by the Home Secretary as an excuse for laying the foundation stone of a police state.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW BRONS,
National Front,
PO Box 163, EC2.
February 8.

Using arms in support of civil power

From Mr Stephen Hall-Jones

Sir, The Attorney General's two immediate predecessors in title to that office would not have expressed quite as much horror at the question asked by Mr Dennis Canavan as the present incumbent did on February 9 in the House (Parliamentary report, February 10).

The whole question of the use of force by members of her Majesty's Forces in support of the civil power has been a constant source of vexation for those who have had over the years to advise on this very problem. Nowhere is the issue more acute than in Northern Ireland, where I served for a year on the (then) Army Legal Services Staff.

The section quoted by the Attorney General in support of the proposition that the security forces have no greater powers than any citizen in preventing the commission of a crime is to be found in the Criminal Law Act 1967. It provides as follows:

(1) A person shall use such force as is reasonable in the circumstances in the prevention of crime, or in effecting or assisting in the lawful arrest of offenders or suspected offenders or of persons unlawfully at large.

That section has been the criterion used by the Director of Public Prosecutions for Northern Ireland and the Attorney General in deciding whether or not to prosecute members of the security forces for alleged offences committed while on duty, ranging from murder to common assault. That the section should apply to those on duty *in Northern Ireland* at all is what should cause horror and not Mr Canavan's question.

The reason is simple. The section of that Act was never designed to cater for the situation where highly trained and powerfully armed soldiers are called in to support the civil power. It was aimed at the "have-a-goers" and others who used force to prevent "*domestic*" crime more often than not aimed at the person or the property of the user of that force. It sought to codify a tangled mass of case law on the subject.

The situation in Northern Ireland (and for that matter the siege of the Iranian Embassy) is wholly beyond its scope. How can a soldier in a combat situation weigh up the niceties of "reasonableness" in his use of force? The mere fact that soldiers on duty in the province could face prosecution for an error of judgment afterwards held to be objectively unreasonable was, at least while I was there, a tremendous impediment to the aggressive attitude required by the security forces in the defeat of terrorists in an internal security situation. The greatest dishonour we do to our troops in Northern Ireland is to equip them for a combat role and then threaten to prosecute them if they use those weapons in a way held subsequently to be unreasonable.

Of course the distinction must and can be drawn between a soldier faced with an "agony of the moment" situation and the recent conviction of a young officer and his soldiers in connexion with a murder committed in South Armagh. That distinction is being made constantly by the DPP for Northern Ireland who has the unenviable task of deciding when to prosecute.

The first move must be to make the test of the section a subjective one and not one of reasonableness. In that case a soldier genuinely believing that his use of force was proper would have nothing to fear if afterwards in the cold light of day a reasonable man would have thought otherwise. But of far greater importance than short-term expediency is the pressing need to provide a system of safeguards for the civilian population, at the same time providing the soldier with the peace if mind, if one can call it that, necessary to carry out his duty to root out terrorism. Hampering him by the illogical application of the Criminal Law Act 1967 is not the way to achieve it.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
STEPHEN HALL-JONES,
Lamb Building, Temple, EC4.

From Mr Bruce Harris

Sir, Your reports of the uncontradicted prosecution evidence given at the recent trial of the surviving Iranian Embassy siege terrorist will have created disquiet in a number of minds, since they tended to leave an impression that some of the terrorists were shot by the SAS (Special Air Service Regiment) in cold blood after they had surrendered. Subsequent developments have not, unfortunately, provided much consolation.

First, the closing speech of prosecuting counsel at that trial, as you reported it (January 23) appeared to be an attempt to give evidence to a contrary effect, yet we were not told on what basis his comments were made, nor why they were needed. They seemed irrelevant to the charges before the court.

Then you reported on the inquest into the deaths of the other terrorists (February 4 and 5). There, perhaps curiously, no members of the SAS team were called to give oral evidence, although the coroner saw fit to suggest that the oral evidence of some of the hostages had been embellished or misinterpreted with the passage of time.

The written statements of two of the soldiers were read, but what of the evidence of the others? Some of the statement evidence, as reported, seemed unsatisfactory: for example, if there was as much *smoke and confusion* as the coroner indicated, why did Soldier H bother to ask a terrorist's name and country? *And the same soldier's* statement that a terrorist "made *some movement* with his hand which I considered a direct threat" is *vague in the extreme*.

The coroner's directions to the jury did not appear, in many *respects*, to have been in point. Although he rightly pointed out that justifiable homicide means using such force as is reasonable in the circumstances in the prevention of a crime, it was inappropriate to say that the jurors should consider the implications to this country if verdicts of unlawful killing were recorded, or to suggest that they should consider whether the SAS acted reasonably in all the circumstances, by which phrase he apparently meant what had or might have happened prior to their attack.

That it took the jury almost an hour to reach verdicts is interesting, but was it not inapt for the coroner to express his surprise at the time it took them? They had already had more than one substantial hint from him.

Lastly, it was a pity that when the Attorney General was asked whether the SAS had been given immunity from prosecution or orders for summary execution, he did not see fit to answer either question categorically, according to your Parliamentary report (February 9). He may well have been horrified by the questions, but he should still have replied to them.

No one doubts the courage and determination of those involved, and many might feel that, morally, whatever happened when the SAS attacked is justifiable. But if there were any deliberate killings, or if orders were given for summary execution, or if any kind of immunity was granted, there would have been a most serious breach of the law as it stands.

No one is above the law, and those cynics, like me, who retain even the faintest doubt in the back of their minds are entitled to be reassured in clear terms that this principle was respected in the case in point.

Yours faithfully,
BRUCE HARRIS,
24 Elgin Crescent, W11.

Breath test policy

From Mr G. W. R. Terry and Dr P. A. B. Raffle

Sir, As president of the Association of Chief Police Officers and chairman of the Transport Committee of the Medical Commission on Accident Prevention, both members of the Blennerhassett committee on drink and driving, may we express our concern that much of the debate on the power of the police to require breath tests has been clouded by the use of emotive phrases which do not bear examination, and the failure to compare the committee's proposal with the present law which, in this respect, the Secretary of State seems intent to preserve.

It does not help to use expressions such as "We are not yet ready for random testing in a democratic society". In the first place the committee did not recommend random testing. Its report specifically states that random testing would be wasteful of resources. Nor does a reference to a democratic society make sense. In this and in most other countries a "breathalizer" law exists. It cannot be enforced without a power to require a breath test.

The only question is whether to allow the police to use their trained power of observation and their discretion to require a test when they think it appropriate or whether it is possible in any logical manner to limit that discretion by statute. The committee not only recommended that the discretion could not be fettered but stated that this was fundamental to all their proposals. It simplified the law, increased its deterrent effect, rid the present Act of some of its anomalies and would allow sensible enforcement.

Those who express contrary views do so without contrasting discretionary testing with the present limits of involvement in an accident, a moving traffic offence or a suspicion that the driver has consumed alcohol. These are arbitrary grounds chosen to avoid leaving the matter to the discretion of the police. It ignores the fact that if the police may require a breath test in these circumstances they may not in others, however obvious a candidate for testing a motorist may be. Within those groups many will be innocent, yet subject to being tested, whereas others outside those groups will not be so subject. Who benefits from this?

With the appalling number of casualties due to drink and driving and a steady erosion of the effectiveness of the present law, surely a more logical and reasoned view should prevail. It is not the responsible motorist who need fear the use of these powers. He or she will be the first to benefit if casualties are reduced by keeping the driver who drinks to excess off the road.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE W. R. TERRY,
ANDREW RAFFLE,
Sussex Police Headquarters,
Malling House,
Lewes,
East Sussex.

American music

From Mr T. P. Hudson

Sir, Mr Bernard Levin rightly points out (February 5) that the chief American contribution to twentieth-century music has been in jazz and related fields, though he curiously ignores among composers Duke Ellington, whom your obituarist described as towering "far above such a figure as . . . Gershwin". But surely the greatest creative talents in American music of this period belong to the great jazz improvisers, who were often incapable of reading or writing music, but who none the less would effectively "recompose" a tune each time they played it with a facility and an invention that can be breathtaking.

The idea of the "composer" creating works to be performed according to a score whose notes are invariable, is in any case probably the exception in musical history. It is a kind of Europacentrism that lies behind Mr Levin's view, though one does not have to go far back in European musical history to find improvisatory techniques being employed in exactly the same way as in jazz, though alas not preserved for posterity.

Yours faithfully,
T. P. HUDSON,
23 Glenwood Avenue,
Bognor, West Sussex.
February 9.

Thomson tenure of 'The Times'

From Lord Chorley and others

Sir, In 1975, we were nominated by our colleagues on the Royal Commission on the Press to undertake a rapid inquiry into the financial situation of Fleet Street. This was published in 1976 as the *Interim Report* of the Commission. Our consultations and investigations gave us a comprehensive insight into the attitudes of trade unions and proprietors.

At that time, we received compelling evidence of the Thomson Organisation's willingness to translate verbal assurances of good will towards other newspapers into purposive action.

Now that there is a new proprietor of Times Newspapers, we wish to record our sadness that so little awareness has been shown in public discussions of the debt owed to the Thomson family, and that so much ill-founded criticism has been directed at the Thomson Organisation.

The facts are that our main newspaper of record has been sustained at heavy cost for 14 years and, when the losses could no longer be carried with any chance of recovery, the paper was sold under arrangements which have fully safeguarded the public interest.

Yours truly,
ROGER CHORLEY,
JOHN HUNT,
O. R. McGREGOR,
House of Lords.
February 15.

Making a ministry

From Sir John Colville

Sir, I think that in his "Memo to the Labour Party" and the constitutional lesson it contains, Mr Peter Jay (February 2) makes one reprehensible error. He says that if a Labour Prime Minister (or presumably any Prime Minister) lost his majority in the House of Commons he "would still have the options of advising the Queen to send for someone else (including the Conservative leader) or to dissolve Parliament".

People far more experienced than either Mr Jay or me, including at least one Prime Minister and one Lord Chancellor, have held that an outgoing Prime Minister has no right or power to advise the Sovereign about his successor, unless specifically invited to do so. And since it is the Sovereign's undoubted duty to ensure that the government of the country is carried on, there might well be occasions when the Queen would be right to refuse a dissolution, should an alternative government be available in the existing Parliament.

We may not have a Constitution, but we do have what are loosely called conventions of the Constitution; and I am sure Mr Jay will agree that these should not be dictated afresh by the egregious theories propounded at a Labour Party conference or by any authority other than all three estates of the realm...

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
JOHN COLVILLE,
The Close,
Broughton Stockbridge, Hampshire.
February 2.

Revolution in employment

From Mr Derek Barrow

Sir, That modern technology produces more and more wealth with less and less labour (Mr Cumberland's letter, February 7) is an unacceptable fact. For, since only those who work are paid, in fact this means the production of even more goods with even less money to buy those goods.

Herein lies the problem of work-sharing: how may industry pay the going wage to an increased, part-time work force and remain profitable? It is a problem which at once questions the fundamental concepts of our financial system. But, if we are not to have social collapse, it is surely a problem which must urgently be faced—even by politicians.

Yours faithfully,
DEREK BARROW,
The White House,
Colworth, Chichester.
February 9.

MPs abroad

From Mr Ron Brown, MP for Leith (Labour)

Sir, I notice that a group of Tory MPs, including Mr N. Winterton, have just returned from the Middle East, where, of course, they were guests of the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organization).

Fair enough. They may learn something about the Palestine question. But why did they condemn three Labour MPs, which included me, when we visited Afghanistan to see the situation in that country? Perhaps the answer has to do with the double standards of the Tory Party.

Sincerely,
RON BROWN,
House of Commons.

Was that a record?

From the Registrar of Companies in England and Wales

Sir, Mr Oliver Weaver (February 11) suggests an inconsistency in Section 53 of the new Companies Bill, which proposes that I may destroy certain original documents provided I keep copies of them.

Lest your readers believe this to be solely a means of maintaining a viable photocopying industry, I should point out that the copies in question already exist, on microfilm, which condenses each mile of shelf storage into about 140ft. The paper is hardly, if ever, needed subsequently, and certainly not after 10 years, and the proposal would not only save valuable storage space but supply sufficient paper for recycling to preserve a few more trees each year.

And "and" and "&" (or "and" & "&"), whilst not necessarily the same in law at present, are so to most people: the intention is to secure, in this part of company law at least, that they should be.

Yours faithfully,
DENNIS NOTTAGE,
Companies House,
Crown Way, Cardiff.
February 11.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 15: Miss Pamela Donoghue and Mr Norman Gaughan had the honour of being received by The Queen at Windsor Castle when Her Majesty decorated them with the Royal Victorian Medal (Silver).

Birthdays today

Air Chief Marshal Sir Alex Coryton, 86; Mr Anthony Dowell, 38; Sir Geraint Evans, 59; Lord Franks, OM, 76; Sir Michael Milne-Watson, 71; Captain R. E. Dudley Ryder, VC, 73; Sir Kenneth Selby, 67; Sir James Swaffield, 57; Professor Sir Ellis Waterhouse, 76.

Today's engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, as president of Duke of Edinburgh's Commonwealth Study Conference, presides at meeting of group chairmen from Canada, Buckingham Palace, 7.
Talks: "Pablo Picasso: the Cubist years", by Ann Slee, Tate Gallery, 1; "The craftsmen: prehistoric British and Irish goldwork", by David Williams, British Museum, 11.30.
Lunchtime music: John Bingham, piano, St John's, Smith Square, 1; Philip Pilkington, piano, St Lawrence Jewry, 1.

Lord Mayor of London

The following are some of the Lord Mayor's engagements for this week:
Today: Visits Barbican Arts Centre, 11.30.
Tomorrow: Presides at Mansion House justice room, 10.30.
Wednesday: Attends presentation of *The Accountant* and Stock Exchange annual awards, Mansion House, 11.30.
Thursday: Receive officers from Wood Street police station, Mansion House, 12.
Friday: Attends meeting of Joint Grand Chesham Committee, Mansion House, 2.

25 years ago

From The Times of Wednesday, Feb 15, 1956

The results of the Malta referendum do not justify the introduction of the integration scheme for the island with representation at Westminster. A radical constitutional change of this kind requires, in common sense if not in law, a two-thirds majority. If Mr Mintoff had mustered two-thirds of the voters in the last election, that *is* 80,000 votes, he could justifiably have claimed a victory. As it is he has won only 67,000 or 55 per cent.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before tax paid):
Booth, Mr Abraham, of Enfield, London, chartered surveyor .. £213,430
Clarke, Mr Herbert Henry, of Hove £344,821
Tamplin, Mr Douglas Roynon, of Ottery St Mary, Devon .. £273,056

Premium Bond winners

Winning numbers in the weekly draw for the £100,000, £50,000 and £25,000 Premium Savings Bond prizes, announced on Saturday, are:
£100,000: No 2HT 439142 (winner lives in West Midlands); £50,000: 7LT 900276 (Oxford); £25,000: 18RS 389211 (Devonshire).

Synod again presents church with a choice of destinies

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Church of England sometimes sees itself as standing at the crossroads on the journey to church unity, trying to decide whether its destiny lies with the Roman and Orthodox churches or with those of the Reformation tradition.

Next week's meeting of the General Synod, according to that view, is one more occasion for that dramatic choice to present itself.

The synod has to decide whether to turn away from the offer of a covenant with the Free Churches, which would lead ultimately to full unity with them, or whether to make that its great ecumenical goal of the next decade or more.

The most powerful single factor on the side of a negative decision is undoubtedly the fear that the covenant will, if enacted, jeopardize the Church of England's apostolic catholicity.

Its own title deeds as the continuing ancient Christian church of the English people would have been contradicted: by its own hand it would have made right the charge against it of Newman, Wiseman, Manning and Bourne that it was a false church in the Catholic sense, a mere human artifice.

In that connexion, therefore, it is vital to an understanding of the issues to bring the Roman Catholic Church back into the argument, even though the Roman Catholic bishops formally declined to participate in the convenanting process (largely because of the international dimension to their situation).

The Roman Catholic contribution has in fact been quite remarkable; and even more remarkably it points in favour of the covenant and not away from it.

It was pointed out by the Methodist theologians who helped to design the covenant that some of the key ideas were urged on them by the Roman Catholic theologians who acted as consultant-observers. There is a new and highly original school of thought in English Roman Catholic ecumenical theology, which sees the difficulties over church unity from a quite different perspective to the traditional Anglican or Roman Catholic one.

They have broken free from the nineteenth-century Roman critique of Anglicanism, which dwelt upon questions of validity of orders, sacramental consecration of bishops in unbroken tactile succession, and similar matters.

The resulting theological insights not only provided an underlying rationale for the covenant, but at the same time once grasped, taken all the pressure off Anglicans' fears and doubts. The theory, essentially, is that groups of baptized Christians organized in structured communities can recognize themselves and each other as churches faithful to the apostolic tradition, by recognizing a common apostolic faith.

It is fidelity to the word and the faithful teaching and practice of it that mark and define a true church. In acknowledging that another church has it, a unity that is already implicitly present is immediately discerned and made public, and taken emphatically to heart.

This is the structure of the proposed covenant service itself, at the centre of the covenant scheme. Participating churches openly and formally would declare that each has, in the eyes of the others, the effectual gift of fidelity to the word of God. In that action, they would see themselves as already united, divided only by inessentials and accidents. They radically reinterpret their relationship.

Moreover, the theory flows smoothly over hitherto perilously rocky country, a true church has and must have a true ministry. Questions of sacramental validity, including those concerning bishops, priests and the eucharist, are swept away in this flood of truth.

Christian disunity becomes a concept of false consciousness, a product of looking at things the wrong way, an illusion. This revolution is simple enough even to be called a miracle; and for those who want things difficult, it has all the marks of religious conversion. What was thought to be false is suddenly seen and felt to be true, and things can never be the same.

That is a triumph for the new emphasis on baptism, a distinctive, recent trend in Roman Catholic ecumenical theology. Baptism had been relegated in this theology, primarily as the rite of initiation into church membership rather than as previously a naming ceremony, a private promise to God, or a magical cleansing of individual inherited guilt.

And if baptism is, before all else, admission to church membership, what can it mean to say a person is not to be called a member of this church or that? Are not all Methodists already Anglicans and Anglicans already Catholics, and are all Christians in one church?

It is said that a certain Roman Catholic bishop, considering proposals for a joint Roman Catholic and Church of England parish church, baulked at the idea of a joint baptismal font (presumably with joint Anglican and Roman Catholic water in it). The Roman Catholic priest made the suggestion: babies should have a label tied to them, telling God which church the child was being baptized into. Otherwise, he would not know.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R. M. R. Henderson and Miss E. C. Austin
The engagement is announced between Rhoderick, youngest son of Mr John R. Henderson and Mrs Christine P. Henderson, of Nairn, Moray and Nairn, and Elizabeth, only daughter of Mr and Mrs W. Eric Austin, of Banstead, Surrey.

Major P. R. G. Pearn and Miss R. E. J. Walter
The engagement is announced between Peter Ronald Gillespie Pearn, 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards, eldest son of Major and Mrs A. W. Pearn, of Gosford House, Ottery St Mary, Devon, and Rachel Edwina Jane, daughter of the late Mr C. R. Walter and of Mrs Walter, of The White Gables, Nettleham Road, Lincoln.

Mr G. G. Wetherell and Miss R. A. Myles
The engagement is announced between Gordon Geoffrey, son of Mr and Mrs G. Wetherell, of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and Rosemary Anne, younger daughter of Commander and Mrs T. M. Myles, of Cairnleith, Crieff, Perthshire.

Mr A. K. Wilson-Gough and Miss M. B. Ash
The engagement is announced between Alistdair Kim Wilson-Gough, of Nantclwyd House, Rhuthun, Clwyd, and Marian Beatrice Ash, of Beenleigh Manor, Totnes, Devon. The marriage will take place in July.

Marriages

Mr M. J. Gurney and the Hon Miranda Cumming-Bruce
The marriage took place on Saturday at the Temple Church, EC4, between Mr Michael Gurney, son of Mr J. C. Gurney, of Marloes Road, W8, and Mrs E. A. Gurney, of Lennox Gardens, SW1, and the Hon Miranda Cumming-Bruce, daughter of Lord and Lady Thurlow, of Warwick Avenue, W2. The Master of the Temple and the Rev Peter Dewey officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, wore a satin gown and a long veil of silk tulle held in place by a tiara of glass-beaded lacework. She carried a bouquet of spring flowers and lilies-of-the-valley. Stella Gurney, Emma Tufton, Tiffany Fairey, Layla Andrews, Lettie McLean and Jesse and Griffin Hanbury attended her. Mr William Gurney was best man.

A reception was held at Middle Temple Hall.

Major W. J. Hurrell and Miss V. S. Watson
The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of St John the Baptist, Cirencester, between Major William Hurrell, 17th/21st Lancers, son of Colonel and Mrs G. T. Hurrell, of Park House, Harston, Cambridgeshire, and Miss Virginia Watson, daughter of *Colonel and the Hon Mrs M. C.* Watson, of Eastington House, Cirencester, Gloucestershire. The Rev P. G. C. Jeffries and the Rev J. A. Lewis officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Edward Coxwell-Rogers, Anthony Groves, Charles Longsdon, Roderick Watson, Georgina Buxton, Clare Gradidge, Emma Gold and Katherine Bunbury. Captain Humphrey Halford was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr R. M. Bartram and Miss N. M. Hamilton
The marriage took place in London on Friday, 13 February, 1981, between Mr Terry Bartram, younger son of Colonel and Mrs R. A. Bartram, of Lanchester, co Durham, and Miss Nicola Hamilton, only daughter of the late Dr John G. Hamilton and of Mrs Hamilton, of Old Heathfield, Sussex.

Dr P. Cosgrave and Miss S. Ward
The marriage took place on February 14 between Dr Patrick Cosgrave, only son of the late Mr and Mrs Patrick Cosgrave, of Dublin, and Miss Shirley Ward, daughter of Group Captain and Mrs Ralph Ward, of Fairlight, Sussex. A service of blessing was held afterwards at St Nicholas's Church, Pett Level, Sussex.

A reception will be held in May.

Mr D. A. Lunan and Miss I. A. Harman
The marriage took place on Saturday, February 14, in Kensington between Mr David A. Lunan, elder son of Mr and Mrs T. D. A. Lunan, of Worplesdon, Surrey, and Miss Inez A. Harman, daughter of Mrs K. B. Harman, of Salisbury, Wiltshire, and the late Mr A. P. Harman.

Mr J. C. Lyall and Mrs B. A. Howard-Williams
The marriage took place quietly at Helston on February 14 between Mr John Lyall and Mrs Barbara Howard-Williams.

Mr H. P. Williams and Miss K. J. Wade
The marriage took place in London on February 14 between Mr Hugh Williams and Miss Kathryn Wade.

A painting set in France by Foujita, the Japanese artist, that was sold for £168,716 by Christie's in Tokyo on Saturday.

Memorial service

Mr A. B. Brown
A memorial service for Mr Alan Brock Brown took place in the University Church of St Mary the Virgin, Oxford, on Saturday.

The Rev Andrew Louth, Chaplain of Worcester College, officiated, assisted by the Rev Peter Cornwell. The lesson was read by the Provost of Worcester College, Lord Briggs, and an address was given by the Vice-Provost, Mr David Mitchell. A poem by Edward Thomas was read by Mr John Buxton. Oxford University was represented by the Pro Vice-Chancellor, Warden of Nuffield College. Among others present were:

Mrs A. B. Brown (widow), Mr and Mrs Peter Brown (son and daughter-in-law), Mr Michael Brown, Mr David Brown and Mr Andrew Brown (sons), Mr Jonathan Brown (grandson).

The Mayor and Mayoress of Oxford, the Bishop of Bedford, Bishop J. D. McKie, Lady Briggs, Lady Blake, the Hon Thomas and the Hon Polly Valzer, Sir Edgar Williams, Professor Sir Hans and Lady Kornberg, Sir Christopher Cox, Sir John Wilson, the Archdeacon of Oxford, the Warden of New College, the Principal of Brasenose College, the Rector of Exeter College, the President of Wolfson College (also representing the Treasurer of the Inner Temple), the Acting Warden of Merton College, Dr J. Creigmore (Geelong Grammar School), Mr Keith Ingram (Dragon School), Mr P. H. Harris (St Lawrence College, Ramsgate), Mr E. H. Burn (Oxford University Law Faculty), Mrs D. M. Lennie (Oxford Society), Mr H. E. Hill (Worcester College Society), Mrs R. A. Fletcher (representing the Warden of Rhodes House), Professor R. F. V. Heuston, Professor G. H. Treitel, Professor P. A. Brunt, Professor Charles Pasternak, Professor A. N. Black, Professor R. B. Duthie, Professor David Yardley, Professor R. B. Martin, Professor A. M. Honoré, Professor O. R. Gurney, Mr E. G. Nugee, QC, Colonel R. B. Cole, Major G. L. S. Pike, Mr and Mrs John Lutyens, Mr and Mrs W. F. R. Hardie, Mr Hugh Barrow, Mr John Curtis and R. B. Rosenthal.

Science report

Zoology: Teeth for combing

By the Staff of *Nature*

The power of the electron microscope is helping zoologists to clarify the function of a controversial dental formation in certain living and fossil mammals. The tooth comb is well named, growing straight outwards as a modification of the lower front teeth, and appearing to be ideally suited to grooming the fur, but that function has not been universally accepted.

A study carried out by Dr K. D. Rose and Dr A. Walker of Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore and Dr L. L. Jacobs of the Museum of Northern Arizona in Flagstaff indicates that tooth combs have been used for grooming for at least 55 million years, although it is unlikely that all possessors of a tooth comb use it in that way.

Tooth combs are found today in tree shrews, insect-eaters thought to represent the stock from which primates evolved, as well as in the lemur and lorises, two groups of lower primates. The flying lemurs, which are not lemurs and do not fly *but glide*, also have a tooth comb, but it differs from the others in consisting only of incisors, each split into a separate "comb"; no canine teeth are involved.

Patient field workers have reported that most species of lemurs and lorises use their tooth combs for grooming and also to obtain food, scooping gum from trees or pulp from fruit. Dr Rose and his colleagues, examining pieces of tooth comb under the electron microscope, have identified physical evidence of the grooming.

On the tooth combs of lemurs and lorises they found fine vertical grooves of a size and structure which they presume must have been made by the hairs during grooming. No such grooves could be seen on the modified lower incisors of the flying lemurs, which have never been seen to use the tooth comb for grooming and seem likely to use it solely for eating.

Zoologists want to know how the tooth comb evolved and whether it was first used for feeding or grooming, but there is a dearth of suitably informative fossil specimens. Thus it is fortuitous that Dr Jacobs is able to report *the discovery of a hitherto* unknown and long since extinct species of loris which he has named *Nycticeboides simpsoni*.

The teeth and bones on which the identification is based were found in the Siwalik deposits of Pakistan, which are from seven to ten million years old. Enough teeth have been found to show *that there was a tooth comb*, and electron microscopy has shown vertical grooves similar to those found on living species of lemur and loris.

Zoologists can say with confidence that lorises were using their tooth combs for grooming at least seven million years ago. Unfortunately there is no way of showing whether they were also using them to procure gum or pulp, which are not known to leave characteristic marks.

But the history of the tooth comb goes back farther in the fossil record. Dr Rose and his colleagues have found grooves that confirm an earlier proposal that more than 55 million years ago condylarths, primitive hoofed mammals, were using their tooth combs for grooming. In their case the fossil specimens show signs of wear on the tips of the comb, suggesting that they were also used for feeding.

Source: *Nature* (vol 289, pages 536, 583, 585).

OBITUARY

MR ST JOHN DUDLEY BUXTON

Orthopaedic surgeon in peace and war

Mr St John Dudley Buxton, FRCS, the well-known orthopaedic surgeon died on February 6. He was 89.

His death diminishes by yet one more the exiguous band of men who walked with and talked to Robert Jones. He qualified from University College Hospital in 1913, and within the year was serving with the British Expeditionary Forces in France and later in Macedonia, where he remained until the end of hostilities and was awarded the Croix de Guerre.

In 1918 he joined the staff of the Military Hospital at Shepherds Bush and came under the spell of Robert Jones from whom he learnt his orthopaedic surgery. He was appointed to the staff of King's College Hospital in 1922 as junior to H.A.T. (later Sir Thomas) Fairbank; together they started the orthopaedic unit at King's which was among the first to have a daily fracture clinic under the control of the orthopaedic department.

As a teacher he was crisp and precise, and for this reason became a popular lecturer not only in the medical school but also to the students of physiotherapy and nursing. He joined wholeheartedly in the activities of the medical school and was president of the students' club and the societies union, president of the Cricket Club and chairman of the hospital gazette committee.

As if this was not enough, he found time to set up the Orthopaedic Department at the Royal Surrey Hospital, Guildford, and another in Hemel Hempstead, as well as serving as an active member of the Medical Defence Union before later becoming its president.

In the Second World War he was recalled to the Army and soon went to France, but his organizing ability had full scope when later he was appointed consulting orthopaedic surgeon of the Middle East Force with the rank of brigadier. The efficient orthopaedic service in this theatre was largely due to his success in persuading others to his way of thinking with the minimal fuss.

He became ill in 1941 and was invalided home, but after recovering he joined the staff of the Royal Masonic Hospital to care for wounded officers and returned to work in the Emergency Medical Service at Epsom and as regional adviser.

He had been a member of the British Orthopaedic Association almost from the beginning and was elected president in 1944, gracing this office with the greatest possible distinction. To his students and trainees he was a kindly but firm task master who never spared himself, and expected his juniors to work with him at all times.

In committee he could be stubborn, but he was essentially a kindly man as could best be seen in his handling of patients, especially children, who immediately became his friends and confidants. At least one of his registrars will never forget the wisdom, the kindness and above all the accessibility which he never failed to provide.

He retired from King's in 1952 to another life in industry as director of a well known firm based in the Isle of Wight, which allowed him to continue working as a visitor to Camp Hill Prison and as vice-chairman of the hospital management committee. For many years he greatly enjoyed his garden and his workshop, but it is as a good doctor, a surgeon and a teacher of surgery that he will chiefly be remembered.

He married Winifred, daughter of Picton Warlow. They had a son and a daughter.

ADMIRAL SIR ANGUS CUNNINGHAME GRAHAM

Admiral Sir Angus Cunninghame Graham, KBE, CB, died on February 14, aged 87. He was a signal specialist who saw active service in two world wars, and was Flag Officer, Scotland, from 1950 to 1951.

Angus Edward Malise Bontine Cunninghame Graham was the son of Commander C. E. F. Cunninghame Graham MVO, RN, and Mildred, daughter of the Rev C. W. Bagot, and was born in 1893. He entered Osborne as a naval cadet in September, 1905, and from May, 1910, was a midshipman in the battleship St Vincent and the cruisers Cochrane and Achilles. In 1913-14 he was sub-lieutenant in the destroyer Sandfly and the Royal yacht *Victoria and Albert*.

When the war of 1914-18 began he joined the new battleship Agincourt, in which he served in the Grand Fleet for over two years. After specializing in signals in 1917 he was flag-lieutenant to Rear-Admiral Douglas Nicholson in the 4th Battle Squadron, Grand Fleet.

From 1922 to 1924 he was fleet signal officer in the Mediterranean. As a commander between 1928 and 1935 he had the rare experience of attending courses at the naval military and air staff colleges, and from 1931 to 1933 was executive officer of the cruiser Cardiff, flagship on the Africa Station. He was staff officer (operations and intelligence) in the *Nore Command at the time of* his promotion to captain in December, 1935.

From 1936 to 1938 he was senior naval officer in the West River, China, and six months before the outbreak of war in 1939 he took command of the signal school at Portsmouth, where he served until 1941.

During the next two years he commanded the cruiser Kent in the escort of convoys to North Russia and other Home Fleet operations. From 1943 to 1945 he was Commodore of the naval barracks at Chatham.

Shortly after his promotion to flag rank in January, 1945, he took command of the 10th Cruiser Squadron, with his flag in *HMS Birmingham*, and later of the *2nd* Cruiser Squadron, with his flag *in HMS Superb*. In the spring of 1947 he became Admiral Superintendent of Rosyth Dockyard, and from July, 1950, combined this post with that of Flag Officer, Scotland, until August, 1951.

He was appointed CBE in 1944; CB in 1947; and was advanced to KBE in 1951. He was Lord Lieutenant of Dunbartonshire from 1955 to 1968, and was a captain in the Royal Company of Archers, the Queen's Bodyguard for Scotland. Among his other interests he was vice-president Royal National Life-boat Institution, and a vice-president of the National Trust for Scotland.

In 1924 he married Mary Patricia, daughter of Colonel Lionel Hanbury, CMG and they *had a son and a daughter*.

MISS APHRA HARGROVE

Miss Mary Applebey writes:

It would be sad if there were no recognition given to the life of Aphra Hargrove whose death at the age of 90 was briefly reported in *The Times* last week.

She was the last of the band of devoted workers who surrounded Dame Evelyn Fox at the Central Association for Mental Welfare between the wars, and who, under her leadership, revolutionized services for the mentally handicapped in this country. If it were not for them, mental defectives would still lead useless lives, their latent capacities undeveloped, their sweetness without return. But for them, there would have been no Mental Deficiency Act in 1913, no training centres, no specially qualified teachers, no specialist social workers and no voluntary organizations to share the burdens.

This band of pioneers were quite unlike today's social workers who are often unconscious, and sometimes a little scornful of their debt to the past. Aphra Hargrove did not "identify with her clients", as the modern jargon has it, but felt it a privilege to serve them and to give from the richness of her own experience to those less fortunate than herself.

To her chosen commitment she brought gifts of intellect and humility: she was a Franciscan Tertiary and lived by a rule of simplicity which seemed to her natural, but which humbled her friends. But she was tough, too, tough in argument and tough in judgments which preserved into extreme old age the strict precepts of her upbringing.

From Dame Evelyn she had learned that the best service to the mentally handicapped is achieved only by knowing better than any bureaucrat what are the unanswerable arguments for better services. She pursued her objectives at the National Association for Mental Health long after Dame Evelyn had left the battle, and those of us who worked with her towards the end know that in this small, fey woman, with the fierce blue eyes and the fly-away white hair, there continued to burn, until the day of her death, a steady flame of devotion to the cause to which she had given her life.

SIR ANDREW SHONFIELD

Professor R. C. O. Matthews writes:

In your admirable obituary of Andrew Shonfield, no mention was made of his Chairmanship of the Social Science Research Council between 1969 and 1971. When he took up that appointment, most people would not, perhaps, have thought of him as an administrator. But he displayed from the first not only a breadth of vision about the aims of the SSRC but also a sure judgment of people and a capacity for decision that won universal respect.

Much was achieved during his three years at State House—not least the establishment of close relations with the Research Councils in the natural sciences. His most important contribution, however, was his handling of the political problems that beset public support for the social sciences in a way that does not affect other branches of science and learning.

The SSRC was set up in 1965 under a Labour government, at a time when the social sciences enjoyed high esteem from politicians and public alike. Andrew Shonfield's task was to ensure the survival of the organisation and, most important, the political impartiality of public funding of the social sciences under a new government that was inclined to view social scientists with suspicion verging on hostility. His outstanding success in this task was the result of his tact, his firmness, and above all his own manifest integrity.

Mrs Marie Josephine Douglas, who died on February 6 at Tunbridge Wells at the age of 93, was the mother of the poet Keith Douglas, who was killed in the fighting in Normandy in 1944.

Mr Sydney Smith, CBE, who died on February 13 at the age of 80, was chairman of the East Midlands Gas Board from 1952 to 1956 and of Scottish Gas Board from 1956 to 1965.

Debate on tenancies goes into the open

Farming and Food

Hugh Clayton

The most important debate on the first day of the annual meeting of the National Farmers' Union of England and Wales last week was about tenancies. That was so even though it was more complex, obscure and muted than the debate about prices.

It was the first time since talks resumed between the union and the Country Landowners' Association that union members had been able to state their views in public. For that reason the debate is worth recalling in some detail.

The issue at the heart of the debate was the right of the heirs of tenants to inherit their families' holdings when their parents died. The right was given by the Labour Government in the Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1976.

The right was given because of hardship caused by evictions when tenants died. It was possible before 1976 for a landlord to end a tenancy when the tenant died even if the family of the tenant had farmed the holdings for many generations and even if the *children of the tenant* had farmed it with their parent and had no other livelihood.

The Country Landowners' Association believes that a change in the law is essential because tenants' rights under the 1976 Act discourage landowners from letting land. The chances for young people to start farming have therefore diminished in recent years. Few can afford to buy a commercial farm, which can often be worth more than £1m.

The union faces the difficulty that it represents tenants as well as owners. Mr Richard Butler, its president, said: "Negotiations have been exceedingly tough."

Mr Anthony Hall, of Beccles local branch, spoke of dying villages and dwindling rural populations. He said that preservation of the tenanted sector is of paramount importance and he considered the 1976 Act "vital to prevent real hardship".

Mr Leslie Simpson, Lancashire county chairman, said: "We want reassurance that the union is not going to give anything away which will weaken tenants."

Mr William Donald, of North Walsham local branch, Norfolk, insisted: "Unless we get movement in tenancies there is no hope *for young farmers or other people* coming into agriculture. There are people who are totally disheartened at the lack of movement by the union and the association. The system we have now is totally wrong rurally and for our young farmers."

Mr Robert Collier, of Axminster local branch, Devon, said that they had to look to the future of the young farmer who is trying to get into agriculture.

"I do not like this situation with the union and the association not coming up with an answer, and it is going on and on and on. I think it is time we got off the fence and came up with some ideas."

Mr John Walker, county chairman for Oxfordshire and Berkshire, said that it was essential to remove the element of key money in rent settlements. Many farmers believe that the scarcity of tenanted farms is pushing up rents for new tenancies beyond the value of the food that the farms can produce. They believe that such artificially-inflated rents are being used as a basis for revaluing rents on existing tenancies.

"What about the people who came in 10 years ago?", Mr Walker asked. "Falling profits and increasing rents are putting them in an increasingly weaker position. Some are now paying more in rents than they are actually making in profits."

Mr John Cannon, county vice-chairman for Kent, called for the creation of career leases for about 15 years which would give young *people a chance to start farming*.

Such leases were opposed by Mr John Hooson, chairman of the parliamentary committee of the union. "There are plenty of people in this hall who even on a 20-year tenancy would have been out on their ear some time ago."

The union did not want rents in general to reflect their scarcity value, he said. "We have thought it grossly unfair that existing tenancies should have been visited with that sort or review."

Churchill Travelling Fellowships

The 1981 Churchill Travelling Fellowships have been awarded to the following 32 men and 58 women chosen from more than 3,000 applicants: [illegible]

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy
CAPTAIN: B. E. Neave, FONAC as Capt Aircraft Reserves and Repair, May 1.
COMMANDERS: M. E. W. Bush, Tamar as Exec Offr, Aug 3; M. F. G. Emary, HQ Afsouth Sept 4; N. J. Barter, Defiance as Exec Offr, Aug 28; R. M. Parker, MOD with Nav Sec, Sept 4; P. F. Watson, Argonaut as WEO and SWEO F7, July 3; J. G. Tolhurst, Illustrious Bldg, July 21; D. J. Ellin, FOSNI as SPO, May 5; P. S. Moulding, CINCEASTLANT / CINCHAN as SO Air Defence, Sept 1; J. R. Board, Cinenavhome as Staff Offr Trng (SM), May 8; H. G. Bruce, MOD with DG Ships, June 19; P. A. N. Foster, Defiance as Deputy CSO(E) and SWEO to FO Plymouth, Mar 26; P. H. Longhurst, MOD with DNOR, *Nov 6*; A. J. *Spruce, DNPTS* as DDNPTS, July 10.
CHAPLAINS: Rev P. D. Ainsley, Mercury, May 21; Rev J. E. G. Clark, RNH Haslar, June 18; Rev L. J. De-Grosse, Dolphin, June 8; Rev T. T. Lynn, Daedalus, June 16; *Rev D. G.* Prosser, Osprey, May 5; Rev J. E. F. Rawlings, RNEC Manadon, June 30; Rev A. A. Upton, Vernon, May 27; Rev J. C. Venus, Collingwood, May 1; Rev M. W. Bucks, for 2 yrs Exch Service with the USN, June 18.

Retirements
VICE-ADMIRALS: Sir Stephen Berthon, Apr 3; Sir Roy Halliday, Apr 4.4.81; Sir Peter Berger, Apr 7.
REAR-ADMIRALS: P. E. Bass, April 3; J. Hood, Apr 3; W. D. Lang, Apr 6; P. R. Marrack, Apr 4; G. I. Pritchard, April 3; M. La T. Wemyss, Apr 4; Sir Hugh Janion, April 9; W. A. Waddell April 7.
CAPTAIN: A. C. Wray April 28.

The Army
MAJOR-GENERAL: A. M. Ferrie, HQ UKLF as DMS, Feb 18.
BRIGADIERS: J. R. Burrows, HQ 12 Sig Gp to Comd, Feb 9; A. R. Worthington, HQ UKLF as DDMS, Feb 17.
COLONELS: R. A. Birrall, COD Donnington as Comdt, Feb 20; P. J. Brenchley, GPO BAOR as Comd Pmr, Feb 12; E. R. Clowes, HQ Northag as Ch (Svy) Geog Branch, Feb 16; R. Hume, RMCS Shrivenham as Mil Dir of Studies, Feb 20; J. E. Kitching, 4 Armd Div HQ and Sig Regt as CRE, Feb 20; P. E. Morrison, RE MRO as OIC, Feb 11; A. J. Pavlour, MOD DM(A) as AAG AG1, Feb 20; J. F. Thornoycroft, RAPC Trg Centre as Comdt, Feb 16; D. V. Underwood, MOD DA Ed as Col Ed A Ed 5, Feb 21; B. K. Warner, 6 Fd Force HQ and Sig Sqn as D Comd, Feb 16.
LIEUTENANT-COLONELS: R. A. Dobson, RAPC, Def ADP Trg Centre as GSO1(W) Oh Analyst, Feb 20; P. C. R. Howes RA, ACDS (Ops) as GSO1 D Ops, Feb 16.

Royal Air Force
AIR VICE-MARSHAL: E. C. Dunn, HQSTC as A O Eng, Feb 21.
GROUP CAPTAIN (acting rank Air Commodore): J. B. Mitchell, MOD as D of ADET(RAF), Feb 21.
GROUP CAPTAINS: T. A. Hastings, OASC as President, Air Board, Feb 20; P. C. Clark, HQSTC as C Prov O, Feb 23; A. J. Leggett, NATO Defense College Rome, Feb 13.
WING COMMANDERS (acting rank Group Captain): R. F. Saunders, Nigeria as Cdr RAFAT, Feb 19; G. E. Winch, MOD(AFD) as DD Pers Sv (RAF), Feb 16.
WING COMMANDERS: D. Cousins MOD(AFD) as PSO to CAS, *Feb 16*; G. L. Grindley—USA Exchange Post San Diego, Feb 17; S. A. Edwards, MOD(PE) as Marketing 1, Feb 30.
SQUADRON LEADER (acting rank Wing Commander): A. W. Pritchard, RAF Wattisham as OC Admin Wg, Feb 16.

Parliamentary diary

House of Commons
Feb 9. Statement on inner cities. Employment and Training Bill read a second time by 269 votes to 248. Motion to annul Control of Pollution (Special Waste) Regulations rejected by 117 votes to 81. Representation of the People (Variation of Limits of Candidates' Election Expenses) Order agreed to. Adjournment debate about citizens' band radio. House adjourned, 12.10 am (Tuesday).
Feb 10: Freedom of Association Bill and Muscular Dystrophy Bill both read a first time. Atomic Energy (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill read a second time by 181 votes to 156. Armed Forces Bill read a second time. British Railways Board (Increase in Compensation Limit) Order agreed to. Adjournment debate about schools meals service in Lancashire. House adjourned, 11.24 pm.
Feb 11: Statements on closure of Linwood car plant and on borrowing *powers of British Steel Corporation*. Iron and Steel (Borrowing Powers) Bill and Air Accidents (Compensation) Bill both read a first time. Opposition motion on housing and the building industry rejected by 311 votes to 257 and Government amendment agreed to. Legal Aid, Advice and Assistance (Northern Ireland) Order and Weights and Measures (Northern Ireland) Order both agreed to. Adjournment debate about nuisance arising from all-night parties. House adjourned, 10.45 pm.
Feb 12. Statement on Council of Fisheries Ministers. Petroleum and Continental Shelf Bill read a first time. Education (Scotland) (No 2) Bill read a second time by 306 votes to 234. Adjournment debate about index-linked training for school leavers. House adjourned 10.42 pm.
Feb 13. Social Security Bill read a first time. Gaelic (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, debate on second reading adjourned. Adjournment debate on health service in North West Kent. House adjourned, 3.7 pm.

House of Lords
Feb 9: Industry Bill read a first time. Disused Burial Grounds (Amendment) Bill passed the report stage. Wildlife and Countryside Bill, considered in committee and adjourned (fourth day). British Railways (Victoria) Bill, Great Yarmouth Borough Council Bill, Milford Docks Bill, Peterborough Development Corporation Bill, Preston Borough Council Bill, Sion College Bill, United Reformed Church Bill, United Reformed Church (Slough) Bill, and Walterawang Collieries Limited Bill all read a second time. House adjourned, 10.52 pm.
Feb 10: County of Avon Bill read a second time. Felixstowe Dock and Railway Bill read the third time and passed. Public Passenger Vehicles Bill, Statute Law (Repeals) Bill, both read a second time. Energy Conservation Bill read the third time and passed. Representation of the People (Variation of Limits of Candidates' Election Expenses) Order agreed to. Contempt of Court Bill passed the report stage. House adjourned, 7.32 pm.
Feb 11: Lord Benson introduced. Statements on closure of Linwood car plant and financial assistance for British Steel Corporation. Debates on Mr David Steel's 10-point plan for economic recovery and on the continued operation of Concorde. House adjourned, 8.09 pm.
Feb 12: County of Kent Bill and Humberside Bill both read the third time and passed. National Film Finance Corporation Bill (Consolidation) and Film Levy Finance Bill (Consolidation) both read a second time. Judicial Pensions Bill (Consolidation) passed the report stage. Weights and Measures (Northern Ireland) Order and the Legal Aid, Advice and Assistance (Northern Ireland) Order both agreed to. Wildlife and Countryside *Bill further considered in committee* (Fifth day). European Assembly Elections Bill read a second time. House adjourned, 10.50 pm.
Feb 13: Wildlife and Countryside Bill further considered in committee. House adjourned, 3.35 pm.

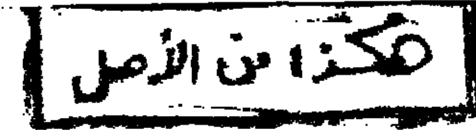
Parliamentary notices

House of Commons
Today at 2.30: Private member's motion on adult education. Gas Levy Bill, second reading.
Tomorrow at 3.30: Debates on Opposition motions on the absence of effective Government action to prevent the threatened closure of Talbot Linwood and on EEC sugar proposals and their effect on employment in United Kingdom refineries and the economies of developing countries.
Wednesday at 3.30: Proceedings on Redundancy Fund Bill and Iron and Steel (Borrowing Powers) Bill.
Thursday at 3.30: Water Bill, remaining stages. Proceedings on the House of Commons Members' Fund and Parliamentary Pensions Bill. Motions on Members' salaries and pensions.
Friday at 9.30: Private Members' Bills. Shops Bill and Countryside (Scotland) Bill second readings.

Select committees
Tomorrow: Energy. Subject: Industrial energy pricing. Witnesses: National Union of Mineworkers. Room 6, 4.15 pm.
Wednesday: Education, Science & Arts. Subject: Public and private funding of the arts. Witnesses: British Film Institute; Crafts Council. Room 6, 10.30 am.
Industry and Trade. Subject: Finance for British Leyland. Witness: Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry. Room 16, 10.45 am.
Foreign Affairs: Subject: The Situation of Gibraltar and United Kingdom Relations with Spain. Witnesses: Mr Peter Blaker, Minister of State Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Room 15, 11.30 am.
Transport. Subject: Transportation in London. Witnesses: London Transport Executive. Room 17, 4 pm.
Employment. Subject: The work of the Department of Employment Group. Witnesses: The Employment Services Division, Manpower Services Commission. Room 8, 4.30 pm.
Social Services. Subject: Medical Education. Witnesses: Joint Consultants Committee and General Medical Council. Room 21, 4.30 pm.
THURSDAY: HOME AFFAIRS: Subcommittee on Race Relations and Immigration. Subject: Numbers and legal status of future British overseas citizens without other citizenships. Witnesses: Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Professor Perry, Professor Reid. Room 13, 4.30 pm.

House of Lords
Today at 2.30: Disused Burial Grounds (Amendment) Bill, third reading. Motor Vehicles (Variation of Speed Limits) (No 2) Regulations. Town and Country Planning (Minerals) Bill, committee.
Tomorrow at 2.30: Industry Bill, second reading. Contempt of Court Bill, third reading. Wildlife and Countryside Bill, committee. Debate on report of European Communities Committee on the environment.
Wednesday at 2.30: Debate on the civil aviation industry. Trees (Replanting and Replacement) Bill, committee. Debate on EEC initiatives in the Middle East.
Thursday at 3: Wildlife and Countryside Bill, committee (Seventh day). Deep Sea Mining (Temporary Provisions) Bill, report.
Friday at 11: Wildlife and Countryside Bill, committee (Eighth day) if not concluded on Thursday.

Select committees
Wednesday: European Communities subcommittee D (Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs). Evidence from the Ministry of Agriculture on the Commission's reflections on the CAP, 10.30 am.
Thursday: European Communities subcommittee F (Energy, Transport, Technology and Research). Evidence from executives of Telecommunication, Engineering and Manufacturing Association Ltd and from the Information Technology Organisation on new information technologies, 11 am.
Science and Technology subcommittee II (Hazardous waste). Evidence from the Chemical Industries Association, 3.30 pm.



CCA – the case or evolution, not revolution, page 16

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THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

Why government borrowing is going adrift, page 17

■ **Stock markets**
FT Ind 493.2
FT Gilts 69.01

■ **Sterling**
$2.2855
Index 103.8

■ **Dollar**
Index 101.0
DM 2.2195

■ **Gold**
$493.50

■ **Money**
3 mth sterling 13¼-13⅛
3 mth Euro $ 18⅜-18¼
6 mth Euro $ 18u-18¼
Friday's close

IN BRIEF

Metro blow o Innocenti over launch n Italy

BL is to launch the Metro re in June as part of a camign aimed at doubling the imber of vehicles sold on the ilian market.

The decision to import will a disappointment to Signor essandro de Tomaso, whose nocenti works in Milan—rmerly owned by British Leyid—assemblies about 40,000 inis a year and who said at e end of December that he is negotiating with BL to proice the Metro in Italy.

In its small way, BL officials scribe the company's expanm in Italy in recent years as success. From about 10,000 its in 1979, sales rose to ,000 last year, and should ach 36.000 this year, helped the arrival of the first Metros June. The most popular cars ld last year were about 6,500 legros and about 6,000 Clubin Minis.

The turnover of BL's subliary Leyland Italia rose in 80 to 112,000m lire (£46.5m) ainst 58.000m lire the year fore.

arthquake fund

The Italian cabinet will seek rliamentary approval for a ecial levy of 5 per cent of xable income to provide ds to help rebuild Italy's uthern region devastated by t November's earthquake, vernment officials said. A ve-year reconstruction programme will cost 8,000,600m e (£3.394m) according to government estimates.

ax cuts delayed

President Reagan has decided ask Congress to make a per cent income tax reducn effective on July 1 instead retroactive to the beginning the year.

igeria contracts

Five new contracts amounting to £20m have been won by ylor Woodrow of Nigeria. ney include a £10m road heme for Minna, the capital Niger State, and the asphalt concret overlay of the 117-lometre road linking Kanotsina-Jibiya in the Kano and iduna States, worth £5.9m.

BI Tokyo talks

Sir Raymond Pennock, president of the Confederation of itish Industry, today begins three day visit to Tokyo. He ll have talks with Japanese nployers' organizations and overnment ministers on ways reducing the imbalance of ade.

teel trigger prices

The United States Department of Commerce said steel igger prices for the second iarter of 1981 will be 4.4 per nt above the first quarter.

anadian loan

A senior official in Canada's dustry ministry said he could ither confirm nor deny a report that a Federal cabinet mmittee has approved in inciple $140m (£50m) of loan iarantees for Chrysler Canada.

rudential in Tokyo

Sony-Prudential Life Assurance, a joint venture between ony Corporation and Prudenal Assurance, will start busiess in Tokyo in April after ormal approval by Japan's nance ministry.

JS car slump

America's domestic car arket slump continued this onth, with sales falling 8 per nt in the first 10 days of ebruary to 135,054 cars.

vory Coast oil

Ivory Coast could become lf-sufficient in oil production y 1983 and a net oil exporter y 1985.

EEC plans fund of £3,650m to offset members' oil import costs

From Michael Hornsby, Brussels, Feb 15

EEC finance ministers hope to be able to agree tomorrow on a new £3,650m loan facility to help member states with balance of payments deficits caused by the increasing costs of imported oil.

Under the scheme, the European Commission would be empowered, on behalf of the EEC, to raise loans, either directly from the oil-producing countries themselves or on the international capital markets for relending to those member states in need.

The facility would be essentially an enlarged and amended version of a similar recycling operation mounted in 1975 at the time of the first oil price crisis. Italy and the Republic of Ireland received help under the earlier scheme.

Two points remain to be solved. The first is the total amounts available, the sum proposed being considered too high by West Germany. The second is the voting procedure to be used by the Council of Ministers in deciding whether to grant a loan and what conditions to attach to it.

The Commission has proposed that such decisions should be taken by a simple majority vote, but most member states, including Britain, appear to favour the unanimity rule, which in effect gives a power of veto to any one of them.

A loan could be advanced as a single sum or by instalments, in which case instalments could be withheld if the borrowing country failed to meet the economic policy conditions laid down when the loan was granted.

The European Commission would monitor the economic policy of the country concerned for compliance with the loan conditions, and would be entitled to seek any information it required.

Apart from stricter conditions, the new scheme also envisages that funds should be granted before a country gets into acute balance of payments difficulties, and that the borrower should be able to exercise an early repayment option not previously available.

The preamble to the legal regulation which Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and his fellow finance ministers will be asked to adopt declares that loans should be given promptly "to encourage (the borrowing state) to adopt measures likely to prevent the occurrence of an acute balance of payments crisis".

It also says that the economic policy conditions linked to loans should "be adapted to the gravity of the balance of payments situation of the (debtor states) and to ways in which it develops".

The new scheme was drawn up by the European Commission together with officials from member states, and reflects the desire expressed by EEC heads of government last April in Luxembourg that Community recycling mechanisms should be reinforced to cope with the balance of payments effects of repeated oil price increases.

As an oil exporter in balance of payments surplus, Britain does not seem likely to be a client for financial relief in the forseeable future.

Indeed, given the Government's economic philosophy, Britain could take a tougher line than many other member states on the severity of the conditions that should be attached to loans.

Pact may end engineers' council deadlock

By Derek Harris

A new initiative involving the Engineering Employers' Federation (EEF) and the four largest engineering institutions is close to breaking the deadlock over the launching of the Engineering Council, the Government's new "watchdog" body for engineering.

Changes to the draft charter for the new council have been drawn up which give more recognition to the role of the institutions and an agreed paper has gone to Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry.

Initial talks on the changes have already taken place at the Department of Industry with the four institutions covering civil, mechanical, electrical and chemical engineering. The four account for nearly two thirds of professional engineers.

The initiative has brought the best hope yet of ending the stalemate between the department and the 16 institutions, including the main four which make up the Council of Engineering Institutions (CEI).

The CEI and all the institutions had earlier joined in rejecting the department's draft charter for the new body, with the CEI holding a trump card in being the only body at present empowered to award the title of Chartered Engineer (C Eng). The department wants that power to be ceded to the new council which would take over much of the present role of the CEI.

It remains to be seen whether the four main institutions can persuade the CEI as a whole to support a changed charter, although there is always a possible threat of resignations by the four and a consequent drop in the CEI's already slim income.

For the CEI to give up awarding the C Eng title, a meeting of its total engineer membership would have to agree by a two thirds majority to charter changes.

If C Eng stayed with the CEI there are two possible options. One would be for the new council to adopt a new title—Registered Engineer was suggested in the Finniston report on engineering—and the other would be for the institutions' individual variations of the Chartered Engineer title to be used, as in Chartered Electrical Engineer.

But Sir Keith, who previously appeared to be ready to wash his hands of the whole affair, may now be prepared to go ahead with the proposed Engineering Council without powers over the C Eng title.

The changes being put forward by the EEF and the four institutions give greater assurances of institutional involvement in the new body. But the most important change is that membership of an institution would be regarded as the preferred route for anybody going on a new engineers' register.

Nor would direct registration with the new council, possible under a "conscience" clause, be allowed to be a cheaper alternative

If the new initiative runs into difficulties, the Conservative group of trade unionists has asked to meet Sir Keith to put forward a plan drafted by Mr John Kapp, a consultant engineer who is a prominent member of the Institution of Electrical Engineers. This plan would rely on changes to the CEI itself, including making it independent of direct funding by institutions.

Lonrho may employ rare time-limit tactic in takeover move for House of Fraser

By Philip Robinson

Lonrho's formal document offering £158m for the House of Fraser, due at noon today, could contain a special and rarely-used takeover tactic which would give Fraser shareholders just 21 days to accept the 150p a share bid.

If it does, some City financial institutions reckon that Lonrho will get control of Britain's biggest department store group, which owns Harrods.

Usually a bid runs to a first closing date, after which the level of acceptances is disclosed, and then remains open for a further 14 days to allow more acceptances to come in. No offer can run for more than 60 days without the permission of the Takeover Panel.

The big institutions, traditionally late acceptors of a takeover offer, normally use the first acceptance date to gauge the feeling among other shareholders and still have a fortnight during which to accept for themselves.

But the time clause would allow no one to test the temperature before deciding what to do. And in that case, at least one large institutional fund manager thinks Lonrho will win.

It has always been possible that Lonrho will walk into the stock market after its own shareholders' meeting approves the deal on March 4, and try to buy the 20 per cent it needs to gain control of Fraser.

But this could mean it will have to pay a large premium in the market over its own offer price and is then bound by the takeover rules to make a general offer at the highest price paid for shares in the market.

A time limit could circumvent the need to raise the offer which some say could be as high as 180p.

The time clause is normally used in takeovers involving smaller companies where the predator wishes to retain the stock exchange quotation of the company it is buying. It is rarely used in a deal the size of Lonrho and Fraser.

Mr Graham Walsh, director-general of the Takeover Panel, says no approval is needed from the panel to impose this clause, but the offer document must make it clear that the bid will not be extended under any circumstances beyond the 21-day period.

Mr Walsh declined to reveal whether any big company had recently asked the panel's view on such a condition. S. G. Warburg, Fraser's merchant bank advisers, said: "We are aware of this possibility but we will have to wait for the document."

There are already reports that a leading Scottish stockbroker has recommended Fraser's private shareholders to sell half their shares in the stock market.

Meanwhile, Sir Hugh Fraser, deposed chairman, said in the presence of his solicitor at the weekend that he was likely to make a second statement to shareholders in about a fortnight, probably after release of the formal Fraser board defence document.

Coca-Cola decides water is the real thing

Coca-Cola is about to unleash a new product on Britain: water.

Still thirsting for new business after such successes as winning the right to open a bottling plant in Peking, Coca-Cola now intends to hop on the bandwagon to flood Britain with bottles of brand name mineral water.

The name, launch date, and origin of this particular rival for Perrier and other French mineral waters remain a secret; but the company is convinced that bottled water is one of the biggest growth areas for drinks within the United Kingdom. The market is estimated to be worth between £12m and £20m.

Mr Leslie Bradbrook, marketing manager for Coca-Cola's United Kingdom subsidiary which is handling the launch, said yesterday: "The per capita consumption of mineral water in France is 50 litres a year. In Britain it is just over a half a litre.

"Drinking mineral water is all part and parcel of a modern lifestyle, in terms of taking care of yourself. When you buy it, you are not just buying water, you are buying a completely natural product which is very strictly controlled by EEC regulations."

Coca-Cola has a small interest in mineral water operations in central Europe and America, but the venture planned for the United Kingdom would be its first full-scale attempt to market the water which is the very foundation of the product which made the company's fortune.

Water refining has played a large part in the company's world operations, with the aim of making Coca-Cola the same wherever it is tasted, be it Bangor or Bahrain.

But its mineral water will be natural, bottled at source and unadulterated, as a new EEC regulation determines

Mr Bradbrook says that the eventual product will be sparkling because 75 per cent of United Kingdom mineral water sales are in that category. The leader in the sparkling sector is the French Perrier brand which claims it has 40 per cent of the market, with Vichy and the British Ashbourne brands vying for second place. Another French brand, Evian, leads the still mineral water sector.

When Coca-Coila gets around to its launch, it will choose London as its initial target area.

David Hewson

NEDO studying ways of boosting export contracts for Britain

By John Huxley

A six month investigation into how British companies can improve their performance in winning large overseas construction contracts is being prepared for the National Economic Development Office.

It is being carried out by Sir Albert (Archie) Lamb, Britain's former Ambassador to Norway, who was appointed by the building and civil engineering economic development committees to head an exports drive.

Sir Archie will be looking at three particular areas in which Britain's shortcomings have been cited as a reason for its failure to win a larger share of overseas work. The criticized areas are project leadership, the role of the nationalized industries; and financial support, both from the Government and the City.

Although Sir Archie will not attempt to act as a catalyst in putting together consortia to bid for overseas work, it is hoped he will suggest ways in which the traditional fragmentation of the British effort can be remedied.

His work is one of a number of initiatives being undertaken by the committees in an attempt to seek out new, and strengthen performance in old, markets.

Sir Albert Lamb: looking at shortcomings of construction industry.

The need to do so is pressing. More than 275,000 construction workers are now out of work, and figures to be published later this week will show that new orders, especially for public clients, slumped alarmingly in 1980.

Last week, members of the building committee had a stormy meeting with Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, who was able to offer little prospect of an upturn in orders paid for from the public purse.

However, he was hopeful that there would be a revival in the depressed house building market, with the number of starts increasing by as much as 20 per cent over the next 12 months.

Meanwhile, two reports* published today suggest that, while larger construction companies are weathering the recession successfully, they are often doing so by taking contracts at non-existent margins. They have also been able to pick up work by pushing down market for smaller contracts.

By contrast, the authors say that the smaller companies are now hitting "rock bottom", many of them because of a dependence on house building. The sector in 1980 reached its lowest level of starts in any peacetime year since the 1930s.

*Building and Civil Engineering (two volumes) £80 each. ICC Business Ratios, 81 City Road, London EC1Y 1BD.

Enterprise zones under scrutiny

By Peter Hill

Detailed studies into the impact of enterprise zones in boosting industrial activity have bene commissioned by the Government. It will be conducted by experts commissioned by the Department of the Environment over three years.

The consultants have been asked to identify which of the package of incentives being offered to companies setting up in the new zones has been the main influence.

Establishment of the zones was announced by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor, in his March Budget last year. They are seen by the Government as an experimental approach

Since then 11 possible zones have been identified and are now the subject of discussion between the local authorities and the Department of the Environment. Possible sites include the lower Swansea Valley; Clydebank; Corby, Northamptonshire; Dudley, West Midlands; Hartlepool, Cleveland and the Isle of Dogs in London's dockland.

Monitoring of the enterprise zone experiment is being coordinated by Roger Tym and Partners, urban and land economists, working with three other concerns.

Companies which establish operations in enterprise zones will benefit from relaxation of planning requirements, exemptions from development land tax rates and 100 per cent capital allowances for industrial and commercial properties.

Opec to provide £36m for poorest Unctad countries

From Alan MacGregor
Geneva, February 15

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) is to provide $83.4m (£36m) to meet the 35 poorest countries' share of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad) common fund for commodities.

This was indicated by a fund official on Friday at the end of the week-long meeting of the fund's preparatory commission, which 93 countries attended.

Unctad and developing nations delegates underlined the need for governments to speed up the process of signing and ratifying the fund agreement.

Since it opened for signature on October 1 only 24 governments representing 47 per cent of the $470m needed in directly contributed capital have signed—with no ratification so far.

The agreement can come into force only when it has been ratified by 90 countries representing at least two thirds of the capital required for the first account. The target for this is March, 1982.

Signatories include the United States, United Kingdom, France, Italy and Japan. The Opec contribution will bring promised direct contributions up to the two thirds mark.

Rubber, cocoa, sugar and tin are potential early users of the fund which is the basis of Unctad's projected integrated programme to facilitate world trade in 18 basic commodities.

Clothing workers to lobby MPs

By Our Industrial Staff

Several hundred clothing workers from all parts of Britain will lobby MPs later today in an attempt to gain support for urgent measures to save an estimated 100,000 jobs in the industry.

The National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers claims that this number of jobs will be lost during 1981.

The lobby, which is being sponsored by the Trades Union Congress, will include workers from the textiles and footwear industries.

Last month clothing unions and employers' leaders travelled to Brussels to press their case for improved protection against cheap imports which they claim are an important cause of their present problems.

Meanwhile, further evidence of the far-reaching changes taking place in the textile and clothing industries is provided in the annual report of the Oldham and District Textile Employers Association, which covers the heartland of these once-powerful industries.

The report, published today, shows that 11 of the 52 mills in membership closed, while employment fell by 3,000, almost a third.

The Oldham office of the association now covers an area represented by six local associations as recently as 1959.

Couriers seek right to carry overseas letters

By Patricia Tisdall

Independent courier companies are lobbying for the right to carry letters within the United Kingdom to or from overseas, at present prohibited under the Post Office monopoly.

They want a new sub-section inserted in clause 64 of the postal section of the Telecommunications Bill which is expected to be discussed in committee this week.

Representation has been made to Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Industry and Information Technology, by the Association of International Air Courier Services and by individual companies.

Mr Baker is understood to be resisting the proposal on the grounds that it could mean that the statute would have to be amended each time that conditions altered.

The comicrs have been told that the Government would prefer to exclude carriers of all "time sensitive" letters through an Order in Parliament under clause 66 of the Bill. This is the clause which permits the Secretary of State to suspend the Post Office monopoly.

In a statement on the monopoly last July, Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Industry, said that he intended to relax it to allow private operators to carry time sensitive or valuable mail provided they charged a high minimum fee which he considered should be initially fixed at a £1.

The courier companies, however, fear that their future expansion may be vulnerable to political changes as the order could be rescinded by a resolution of either House of Parliament.

International Messengers, one of the largest of the British-owned courier companies, has already acted on the promise by opening the first of what it hopes will be a chain of private "postal" offices in London. At present it may legally handle only packets or parcels and not letters.

Mr Andrew Walters, managing director of the group, and one of the founders of the couriers' association has been lobbying for relaxation of the postal monopoly for some years.

He maintains that he is not interested in competing with the Post Office but is interested in "complementing its service in a way that will make the whole communications system internationally far more efficient and profitable".

Anglia to sell airtime for both radio and television

By Our Industrial Staff

The selling of airtime for both commercial television and radio may be on the brink of its biggest reorganization in a decade.

Anglia Television, the Norwich-based commercial group, is to set up its own marketing and sales subsidiary which will sell airtime for the station and other media.

TSW, which won the south of England television franchise from Southern, is understood to be considering setting up an airtime selling subsidiary along the lines of the Anglia scheme, and a number of other companies may follow.

Anglia's plans have not yet been made public, but there is speculation that the company is planning a regional sales system for commercial radio, the new Fourth Channel, and breakfast television.

It is also expected to look at the implications of a new commercial network beamed into the United Kingdom by satellite from Europe.

At the moment television and radio sales are conducted separately. Television companies deal with advertisers individually except in two cases, the STAGS company which handles advertising for both Scottish Television and Grampian, and the joint agreement between Yorkshire Television and Tyne Tees, both owned by Trident, on selling.

Local radio stations have opted to channel national sales through one of three national agencies.

But in a move which could have long-term repercussion for the industry, the STAGS scheme has been scrapped

The possibility of a general sales facility for national advertisers interested in local radio but sold through regional television companies is thought to have attracted a number of radio stations.

It would also go some way towards stemming recent criticism from some large advertising agencies which have been unhappy with the way commercial radio is sold.

One constant complaint from national advertising agencies is that commercial radio lacks any real system of regional flexibility for advertisers.

Boeing could lose sales to Airbus consortium if loans are reduced

Export-Import Bank faces cuts in funding

The White House Office of Management and Budget has proposed large cuts in the funding of the United States Export-Import Bank, although it has said in a Cabinet paper that because of this the Boeing Corporation could lose sales to the European Airbus consortium.

All preliminary loan commitments may have to be reviewed and Mr Art Obester, a bank representative, said that one of the very biggest loans now pending for final authorization concerned $290m (£126.9m) that Boeing had sought to ensure that Ansett Airlines, the Australian company of which Mr Rupert Murdoch is a director, bought its aircraft rather than the European Airbus A300B.

The Cabinet is believed to have approved the Budget Office's plans to cut lending in the present fiscal year by $94m to $4,500m and cut special discount loans from $400m to $200m.

Even bigger cuts have been approved for the next fiscal year, including full elimination of discount and guaranteed loan programmes.

Mr Obester admitted that the proposed lending cuts would create difficulties as the bank had already committed $2,200m this year. It had expected bigger funding, and had already made preliminary commitments of $7,200m this year.

The bank provided a low rate of interest on the Ansett deal to ensure a Boeing sale, causing controversy, but the Budget Office has now declared forcefully that there is no need for the United States to provide loan subsidies.

If the new chairman of the bank, who has not yet been named by the White House, but who is expected to be Mr William Middendorf, a friend of President Reagan, shares the Administration's view, bank loans with low interest rates may be the very first to be denied final authorization.

Alternatively, the bank might seek to reduce all preliminary commitments. Ansett sought final loan authorization in December and Mr Obester said that a board decision was likely within four to six weeks.

The bank's board has had a neglible influence on the Cabinet decision to curb the bank's activities, as a new chairman has not yet been appointed and Mr John Moore, the incumbent, is a close friend of former President Carter with no White House power now.

The Budget Office said in its Cabinet paper that the damage done to United States business by cutting bank funding would not be great.

It did stress, however, that "the Boeing Corporation, which consumes the lion's share of the 42 per cent of Export-Import Bank direct loans that support aircraft sales, might lose sales in those instances (roughly 20 to 30 per cent of Bank-Boeing activity) where Boeing competes head to head with subsidized foreign producers".

The paper said that subsidies did not really help exports but made no mention of the value of United States currency devaluations to American export growth, and suggested that the free enterprise system's energies were responsible for foreign sales growth.

The United States had a balance of payments surplus while all other industrial nations had deficits. United States export growth had been 7.6 per cent each year since 1973, while the growth of countries such as France, which subsidized exports heavily had been much less.

"The United States enters the 1980s in far better shape, in terms of international trade, than any of our competitors whose export policies have been held up as a model for United States action by those supporting continued high levels of Export-Import Bank activity", it said.

The Boeing Corporation's executives are expected to lobby hard in the Congress in opposition to the proposed bank cuts. Mr Obester said that hearings on the bank's activities were likely in the next month, and discussion of controversial loans might feature prominently in hearings to confirm a new bank chairman.

Frank Vogl
in Washington

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
ustralia $	2.04	1.96
ustria Sch	37.40	35.20
elgium Fr	84.00	80.00
anada $	2.83	2.74
enmark Kr	16.10	15.30
inland Mkk	9.88	9.38
rance Fr	11.95	11.45
ermany DM	5.21	4.97
reece Dr	120.90	114.00
longkong $	12.60	12.00
reland Pt	1.40	1.34
taly Lir	2520.00	2410.00
apan Yn	498.00	472.00
etherlands Gld	5.64	5.38
Norway Kr	13.15	12.50
Portugal Esc	134.50	128.00
South Africa Rd	2.21	2.06
Spain Pta	201.50	192.50
Sweden Kr	11.13	10.58
Switzerland Fr	4.77	4.54
USA $	2.35	2.28
Yugoslavia Dnr	88.50	83.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

MANAGEMENT

Edited by Andrew Goodrick-Clarke

CCA—a case for evolution not revolution

Many finance directors, as well as others who followed the inflation accounting debate in the sixties and seventies, must have felt that they were in danger of drowning, not like the Duke of Clarence in a butt of malmsey wine, but in a sea of words.

With the issue of the Accounting Standard on Current Cost Accounting there was a sigh of relief that a sensible middle-of-the-road solution had been found and that people could concentrate on the practical problems facing their businesses. In a full gale sailors are more concerned with reefing the sails than measuring the exact force of the wind.

But some of those who have read recent correspondence and articles on CCA may have uttered a prayer for protection against the threat of drowning once more. What are the issues which cause some to want to plunge in once again?

At one extreme there are those enthusiasts who would have the accountants lead the charge to recapture British industry's leadership, bearing the CCA banner and trampling historical costs underfoot. At the other are those who say that CCA is a waste of time and should be quietly killed.

In the middle are those who believe neither extreme is justified. CCA cannot itself help revive industry nor, unless and until it is tested and more widely adopted internationally, is it sensible to abandon historic costs.

But this does not mean that CCA is useless. When flying low over rough terrain it is wise to have an altimeter which is, in Keynes's phrase, approximately right rather than precisely wrong. Many companies will soon be publishing 1980 results including CCA accounts prepared in accordance with the new standard. Analysts appear to be paying increasing attention to these and to the relationship between CCA earnings and dividends.

Do they regard CCA as a waste of time? Martin Gibbs's article in *The Times* (January 12) suggests not.

So we have a standard which enables important information on company performance to be incorporated in the published accounts at reasonable cost. But the enthusiasts do their cause no good and reawaken sterile controversy by criticizing industry from outside for dilatory implementation of CCA in management accounts.

This is not mere conservatism, though that is no doubt a factor. There are practical problems too. For example, replacement cost is not always easy to determine when technology is changing. Moreover, historic costs, imperfect as they are, when taken together with cash flow and other management information tell a good manager clearly enough for most purposes which businesses are sound and which are in trouble.

> 'Most of us are too busy fighting the battle for British industry to enjoy the battle of words. We have a workable accounting standard and it is sensible to test it in practice by parallel running over the next three years'

Most flight engineers offered an entirely new type of instrument would prefer to fit it alongside the existing type rather than rip out the whole instrument panel—especially when flying in difficult conditions.

So a balanced view of CCA is that it has a role to play, but that we should progress by evolution not revolution. That is why The Hundred Group, representing the finance directors of many leading companies, welcomed the new accounting standard as a sensible step in the development of CCA.

Experience over the three-year period during which no major changes are to be made to the standard will show how useful it will be and how accounting techniques in the United States and elsewhere will evolve—a purely British solution is no use when trade and companies are becoming increasingly international.

There is little doubt, however, that CCA has suffered damage because the Inland Revenue has not adopted it as the basis for tax in the recent Green Paper on proposed changes in stock relief. It has been a principle of United Kingdom company taxation for 150 years that the assessment should be based on the company's own published accounts, yet it cannot be right to levy tax on historic profits swollen by stock appreciation.

So current cost accounts, adjusted, if necessary, by the use of approved indices for each industry to lessen subjectivity, would seem more logical than a stock relief adjustment on historic costs using a common index for all types of stock from baked beans to copper.

Another problem which worries finance directors is the existence of two sets of accounts. It is not easy for the layman to appreciate how both can be true and fair even if clever wording of audit certificates makes this fiction plausible. For a limited period parallel running is tolerable while CCA is under trial and while its international development is watched. But in the long term, though double-entry is acceptable, two sets of figures are not.

It is in some ways sad that the British accounting profession and the Inland Revenue rejected with so little research a possible solution to these problems which might have given us *inflation-adjusted* accounts, one set of accounts, a workable basis for tax and compatibility with United States accounting conventions—LIFO (last in, first out) with accelerated depreciation. LIFO is a system of stock valuation which approximates to replacement cost and is no more subjective than the British FIFO (first in, first out).

The Sandilands report recognized that it was the most widely used method of eliminating stock appreciation, yet dismissed it in a few paragraphs. It is allowed for tax in the United States and in South Africa.

Like current cost accounting, LIFO has its problems. It can distort balance sheet values (though these could be adjusted), is not suited to every situation and can result in an over-statement of profits in a period of falling volume. But international harmonization of accounting conventions is important, so we should not ignore common practice in the United States.

Most of us are too busy fighting the battle for British industry to enjoy the battle of words. We have a workable accounting standard and it is sensible to test it in practice by parallel running over the next three years. We have that time to demonstrate that it is a useful tool and to assess whether international practice is moving in the same direction. In the meantime, we will not be sorry when the editor says: "This correspondence is now closed".

Geoffrey Wilson

The author is deputy chief executive of Delta Metal, but writes in his capacity as chairman of The Hundred Group, which represents leading financial directors in industry and commerce.

No question that their answer was right

When Unipart's executives sat down, about a year ago, to rethink their marketing strategy, they cannot have had much idea of what they were starting.

It is true that their brief was nothing less than to come up with ways of regenerating the style of the business, a BL subsidiary and the country's biggest motor parts supplier, for the forthcoming decade; and that by the middle of the year someone—was it one of the internal marketing team or someone from their advertising agency Saatchi & Saatchi?—had crystallized a general but vague feeling that the company needed to be positive in its approach into the clever slogan: "The answer is yes. *Now, what's the question?*"

But could it have entered their heads that the campaign which followed would bring managing director Mr John Neill and other senior executives on to a touring stage in the company of half a dozen professional actors and an equivalent number of dancing girls, to play to a nightly audience of hundreds?



Mr John Neill, managing director of Unipart; getting the message across.

This thespian adventure, just ended, started for Mr Neill and his colleagues at the company's annual sales conference last November. The object of this exercise, conducted for the benefit of the heads of Unipart's 220-strong wholesale network, is to promote brand identity and foreshadow future product campaigns.

Last year Unipart did it by means of a series of theatrical sketches, based on the preoccupations of the company and its distributors, interspersed with a series of song and dance routines inspired by the newly-introduced national advertising slogan: "The answer is yes".

The response took the management by surprise. One by one, and sometimes in clutches, the delegates came up to express enthusiasm and frustration in about equal parts. "Marvellous," they said. "A wonderful way of getting your message across. But how on earth am I going to describe it to the foreman and the loaders and the girl on the telephone switchboard when I get back to work?" And then: "Why don't you do a version for them, too?"

As it happens, this plea struck a chord with Mr Neill. A tough guy in the mould of Sir Michael Edwardes when it comes to industrial relations, he nevertheless strongly believes that his company's success is dependent on commitment from the whole of its own and its distributors' workforce. Spare parts, he says, are sometimes bought on price, but have to be sold on service. He was all in favour of getting the message as far down the line as possible.

So the Unipart touring show went on the road four weeks later, for one-night stands at 17 towns and cities from Stirling to Brighton. Local wholesalers were asked to come with all their staff, and such of their clients as they cared to invite, for an evening which takes in some 2½ hours of theatrical entertainment.

The production itself—professionally organized by Malcolm Mitchell & Associates—consists of a series of sketches on everything from the plight of the rejected salesman ("You tried to talk to him at the wrong time, Chris. Get him to give you an appointment instead") and the counter staff's inhibitions over the razzmatazz with which the company is promoting itself ("Well, these badges saying the answer is Yes. Not very nice for a girl to go around wearing them, is it?"), to its plans for future product promotions.

These are interspersed with occasional film (notably of union officials pledging their support for the Yes campaign), a great deal of witty singing and stunning dancing. No one asked the audience (some 400 strong and well-mixed) at Brighton's Metropole Hotel whether they had enjoyed themselves, but the answer would certainly have been yes. And they could hardly have failed to get the message, too.

Mr Neill and his colleagues are coy about how much this exercise in communication has cost, though they point out that the production itself was devised anyway for the national sales conference. They have no doubt that it has been worthwhile—and the fact that the first of the 1981 product promotions, for filters, has reached its sales target only half way through the campaign appears to justify this view.

Adrienne Gleeson

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cover for damage by radio-activity

From Mr Richard Barr

Sir, Mr P. J. Searby (February 9) tells us that domestic and car policies do not cover damage caused by radio-activity because such damage is already covered by statutory provisions.

I am afraid that in so saying he is being a little misleading. The matter is covered by Section 18 of the Nuclear Installations Act 1965 (as amended) and this provides for an absolute maximum of £50 million compensation in respect of any one "incident". Bearing in mind that the total damage caused by the Three Mile Island Accident was around £100 million it hardly seems sufficient.

Besides, if a claim is made under the Statutory Provisions it will be necessary to prove that the damage was caused by radio-activity from a particular nuclear plant. This could be very difficult in practice. It would be far better to allow us the freedom to make our insurance arrangements. I still cannot understand why insurance companies are so reluctant to cover the risk. Perhaps Mr. Searby could tell us a little more.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD BARR,
Mill House, Newton Road,
Castle Acre, King's Lynn,
Norfolk PE32 2AZ.

Political forecasting

From Mr H. F. Robert Perrin

Sir, Anthony Hilton's article (February 10) on the problem of measuring political risk is very apposite. Ask a sample of chief executives of large companies, either in the United Kingdom or overseas, what they perceive as the greatest hazards they face and the most common answer is legislative or political change.

Ask what they do about anticipating such changes and you will usually be greeted with the old reply that they cannot be forecast and hence nothing can be done about it. Significantly, in a recent survey of European business schools, this gap between the agreed critical importance yet total void in teaching techniques to forecast in this field was noted in all but one of the leading schools.

Economic, technical and social changes have also proved difficult environmental factors to forecast—yet much has been done in each of these areas in recent years. Certainly, political and legislative forecasting is difficult, but techniques and tools are being slowly developed in this field and are proving invaluable. "It is better to light a small candle than sit and curse the darkness."

Above all, management can do a lot to measure risks and take steps to hedge and minimize them. For example, the Decision Analysis approach, if properly applied, is particularly suitable for use when management must operate in a high risk environment. By being better able to handle risk, management can turn it to their competitive advantage rather than see it always only as a threat.

Yours faithfully,
H. F. ROBERT PERRIN,
Director,
SRI International, London,
(*Formerly Stanford Research Institute*),
NLA Tower,
12/16 Addiscombe Road,
Croydon CR0 0XT.

Railway electrification

From Professor G. Ronald Bainbridge

Sir, Substitution for oil with energy forms having greater future resource strength and price stability is a recognized energy conservation objective for all industrial countries. Further electrification of British Railways is therefore to be welcomed even if it does not reduce energy consumption. Nuclear fuels and coal are plentiful for electricity generating purposes in Britain. Oil is a salable export.

Rising fuel oil prices, pollution and noise may yet cause reversion of inner city transport to electric traction. Then, assuming rapid on/off loading systems are developed to ease growing congestion of motorways, substantial transfer of long distance goods and passenger traffic to electric railways becomes logical.

All of these electricity for oil substitutions involve modest government financial investments by military, British Steel and British Leyland injection standards. Importantly, they get people back into productive work with undoubted equipment export potential.

Yours faithfully,
G. RONALD BAINBRIDGE,
Professor of Energy Studies,
University of Newcastle upon Tyne,
Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU.

Performance of Canadian reactors

From Lord Bowden of Chesterfield

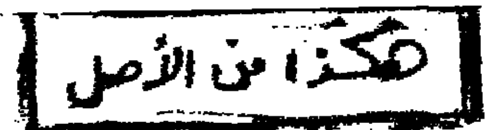
Sir, I am glad that Mr Miller (February 10) has drawn the attention of your readers to the performance of the Hunterston reactor in Scotland. I am afraid that I oversimplified the story in my own letter. The "league table" of the world's reactors to which I referred is restricted to the largest reactors in the world, those of 500 megawatts and above and in this table six out of the best seven were Canadian and three out of the worst ten were British. The Magnox reactors to which Mr Miller refers, although they are very good, are not big enough to appear in this particular table.

Mr Miller must have misread my letter if he thought that I was implying that our own reactors take twenty years to build. I was trying to suggest that we have been studying this design for more than twenty years and it is notoriously true that some of our nuclear power stations have taken a very long time to build. Four of the Candu reactors were a few months late on schedule and four were finished ahead of schedule. I am afraid we have never been able to do anything like that.

May I repeat the point I was trying to make. The Canadian reactors have been the most reliable in the world almost ever since they have been built. I think that I am right in saying that the Pickering station has generated more power than any other nuclear station in the world. I cannot understand why the CEGB has wilfully ignored this design in spite of the fact that the power it has produced is so much cheaper than any to be had in this country. I think it is most important that reliable figures for the comparative costs of electricity in this country and in Ontario should be published officially so that the public will realize how much we are paying for the policies which the CEGB are now advocating.

I do not believe that the enormous investment at Windscale will ever pay for itself. I doubt very much if the fast breeder reactor will ever be made to work and I think that the whole of our nuclear policy should be reconsidered much as the Americans reconsidered theirs a few years ago. They made very fundamental changes: I think we should do the same.

Yours sincerely,
VIVIAN BOWDEN,
"Pine Croft",
5 Stanhope Road,
Bowdon,
Altrincham,
Cheshire WA14 3LB.



DITOR

هكذا من الأصل

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

MLR will be cut, but by how much?

;ince the Government seems to have decided ɔ *hold back* any further cut in interest ates until the Budget, money markets and ɪe gilt-edged market are going to have to e patient. Nevertheless, the main point of ;peculation in the run-up to the Budget n March 10 is going to be the extent of the kely cut in minimum lending rate—1 per ent or 2 per cent?

The Government could go straight for a per cent cut, even if that means no further duction for several months. With the ɪderlying rate of inflation already well into ngle figures the cost of borrowing is ccessively high in real terms for this par-ɪular point in the economic cycle.

On the other hand the authorities very ten prefer smaller and more frequent cuts MLR to keep investors' appetites whetted ɪ the gilt-edged market. Judging by recent :perience, the funding requirement in the ɪening quarter of the new financial year uld be quite heavy, particularly if the ɪvernment is not to see its second attempt assert monetary control move off to a aky start.

Reducing MLR more slowly than one ight otherwise do simply for the sake of-lling gilts is, however, a less than satis-ctory strategy. If necessary the Govern-ent should accept a steeper yield curve d be prepared to be more flexible and ɔre aggressive in its marketing of gilts. *sterling shows any further signs of* weak-ss, it will have no choice in the matter.

Clearing banks

After the party

eanwhile, clearing bank shares have been usually depressed just ahead of the 1980 sults season. In spite of a small rise rlier last week they stand close to a ɪr-year "low" relative to the rest of the ɪrket.

This is not simply because results are pected to be poor. That much has already en discounted. It is more a case of eboding about the renewed tax on ɪndfall" profits and sombre mutterings ɔut the potential for this year. On the ter score the auguries are none too bright.

All this is reflected in the analysis of ɔkers. Quilter, Hilton Goodison's analysts e far and away the most pessimistic both the short and long-term. At the other d of the scale Greenwell's people commend aggressive buying. James Capel re some of the pessimism but are still n on the shares because in the longer m they see good prospects for the sector. far there has not been much of a two-way l with most institutional investors staying the sidelines waiting for the figures and, t as important, the Budget.

piralling bad debts which appeared in shock interim results are likely to persist he second half. Business conditions have eriorated and given rise to higher charges inst doubtful debts, but also banks are ɪly to make large unspecified general visions.

This should indicate how much the banks e been helping ailing companies well ond prudential limits. For the year as a ɪle estimates of bad debts of the clearers y from about £300m to £500m. On the ɪmption that they reach £360m, a reason-y mean average figure, they would be e times those of 1979 and represent the ivalent of more than 20 per cent of total fits of the major *banks*.

anks that are more *involved* with ustry are going to be hit hardest. Those ɪ a better international spread and more ersified business will tend to do better.

BANK PROFITS

	1979 £m	Forecasts for 1980 Quilter	Greenwell
:lays	529	530.7	536.6
'ds	277	240	289
land	316	225.8	250
west	442	415.6	431.8

Thus Midland will have been harder hit *than* Barclays which benefited from its international spread and where buoyant business conditions in South Africa must have made an important contribution.

National Westminster is well spread internationally, but its strength lies more in wholesale banking and the recent lacklustre results from the National Bank of North America do not auger well. Lloyds Bank will be benefiting from its international business but probably to a far lesser extent than Barclays.

For this year—leaving aside any possible horrors in the Budget—the outlook on profits cannot be good. Costs will rise less fast, but this is likely to be more than offset by other factors.

Lower interest rates will probably lead to wider margins but this is not likely to be enough to keep up profitability. Then loan demand is likely to be well down.

But if sterling falls the overseas contribution will be greater and hire purchase and leasing subsidiaries will benefit from lower interest rates.

Even though *yields remain relatively high* ranging from 6 to nearly 9 per cent—and will go higher still—and the p/e ratios are low—below 5 on average—the shares are unlikely to outperform the market for the year as a whole though there may well be bright moments—for example, if the Budget excludes special tax provisions.

Brewers

After two decades of growth....

Once favoured for their defensive qualities, brewery shares have underperformed the stock market average by 18 per cent showing scarcely a spark of life since the majors reported on the summer season around November.

This dramatic downrating is even more remarkable considering that unlike many *areas of industry, profits had not fallen* sharply and dividends were held or increased.

What is recognized is that brewers have reached the end of an era. After two decades of growth in which beer consumption rose at a compound rate of over 2½ per cent a year, the tide turned last May as *consumers cut back sharply on beer drinking* which for most of last year was rising in price much faster than other consumer products.

Aggravated by de-stocking, beer output tumbled by 7.6 per cent in the last eight months of 1980 and the brewers expect an 8.5 per cent drop in the present fiscal year.

Expansion *in the* seventies, particularly in lager capacity, was based on projections of *existing* growth rates and the present overcapacity—worst in ale production—and has already led to brewery closures with Allied Breweries last week announcing the shut-down of its strike-hit Ansells brewery in Birmingham.

With plenty of spare capacity for higher lager production which is expected to continue rising from around 30 to nearer 40 per cent of the total market, it is hard to see any new greenfield-site breweries like Whitbread's Magor or Courage's Reading plant being built for many years to come and indeed capital investment has been trimmed *back by the industry.*

Until duty increases in the Budget of perhaps 2p to 3p are out of the way and the brewers have reported on a miserable winter, the sector is unlikely to show any sustained improvement. However dividends still look safe (though Allied could prove an exception if the Ansells closure leads to *more industrial relations problems*) and brewery results should compare reasonably well with other industries even though profits will be lower.

Thereafter the big question is what happens to beer consumption. No one expects a return to the late forties and fifties when consumption fell by over a *quarter in 13 years.* But nor will there be a sharp recovery: the industry is forecasting a static 1981, and while a hot summer would come to the rescue, the shares are best left alone on the *short* to medium view.

Margaret Coffey reports on the experience of some American companies

Beware—computer at work

'Small businessmen are so bemused by the mystique that surrounds computers that they fail to apply the same standards to buying equipment that they would to other areas of their operations'

New York

Quality Books Inc, a small publishing house near Chicago, decided three years ago that it was time to get a computer to run its business. But automation did not have quite the effect that the people at Quality expected.

A year after the computer had been installed the company was operating with three times as many office staff and working 18 hours a day instead of eight, and seven days a week instead of five. When it was forced to hire temporary typists to catch up on invoices which had not been sent out for seven weeks, it turned its computer off and began to sue its manufacturer.

"After a year we couldn't take it any more and they couldn't fix it", recalls Mr Anthony Leisner, Quality's general manager. "We were getting further and further behind with our high speed computer."

Quality Books experience is not unique—neither is the remedy it is seeking. The company is one of a growing number of small American businesses which are taking their computer suppliers to court.

"Computer litigation is the fastest growing segment of the computer business", says Mr Dick Brandon, a New York management consultant. He estimates that there are more than 500 computer cases working their way through the American legal system, compared with 50 six years ago. By 1985, he predicts, the figure will have risen to 5,000.

Several factors are behind this surge of legal activity. Computers have only recently reached small businesses in large numbers. Because these companies cannot absorb losses as easily as larger concerns, they often have no choice but to sue when a machine in which they have invested thousands of dollars does not meet their expectations.

Also, many small businessmen are so bemused by the mystique which surrounds computers that they fail to apply the same standards to buying computer equipment that *they would to* other areas of their business.

"Too many people are awed by the whole thing", says Mr Joseph Auer, president of a Florida consultancy called International Computer Negotiations. "They just go ahead and sign a form of agreement that *doesn't protect them.*"

Mr Robert Thonen, president of Wheeling Heating Co, a small heating and air conditioning company in West Virginia bought his first computer from a leading manufacturer eight years ago. He claims that he is still trying to recover from his mistake. His computer had ended up costing $130,000 (about £54,000) instead of the $14,000 that he had expected. Most of the surplus came from building a new room for the machine—something that he says salesmen told him would not be necessary.

Mr Thonen says that the computer consistently churned out incorrect invoices and bills. Now it is sitting in his back room, while he awaits the start of a case in which he is alleging that the computer was responsible for a drop in turnover from $834,000 to $410,000 in a year and a half.

He is suing the manufacturer (which denies the charges against it) for $5m in actual damages and nearly $30m in punitive damages. "We're back to the way we were with pencil sharpener, pencil and pad", he says, "and, as far as that particular computer goes, it is about a 100 years faster and a lot more accurate."

The fact that businessmen may be unwary buyers is not the only reason why they run into trouble with their computers. Experts believe that in many cases computer companies take advantage of the customer's lack of knowledge to sell them a computer that is too small or in some other way unsuitable for the work required.

Mr Arthur Goodman alleges that this is what happened when he bought a computer to automate the book-keeping at his telephone answering company in Manhattan. "No way in the world was the particular machine that I was sold going to do the job that I had described to the company before I bought it", he says.

Mr Goodman claims that when he bought the computer, the manufacturer told him that it would save him money. "When it came down to it, it not only didn't save me money, but suddenly I had four people working on billing instead of three and it was taking 12 to *14 days to get the bills out* instead of ten."

Cases such as this, which may or may not have involved some sort of misrepresentation, have prompted lawyers to attempt to get the notion of computer malpractice—similar to legal and medical malpractice—accepted in court. "Computer professionals undertake to advise a company, but in so doing they often do not act as responsible professionals," according to Mr Thomas Christo, a New Hampshire lawyer who handles only computer cases.

Once lawyers overcome their awe of the jargon surrounding computers, says Mr Christo, they find "that traditional common law is more than adequate to afford remedies to aggrieved users."

Indeed, some cases have already been decided in favour of the small computer user. A federal court in New Jersey recently found in favour of Chatlos Systems Inc, when that company alleged that the computer it had bought from NCR failed entirely to do what it had been bought to do. An appellate court is still determining the amount of damages to be awarded, but the company's lawyer believes that the award will be significantly more than the $40,000 which the company paid for the machine.

Such decisions lead lawyers who practise computer law to believe that, as more cases are tried, and the limits of the law are stretched to include new technologies, computer companies will find more constraints on their business practices than they have in the past. "We are looking at something that is going to be devastating to computer vendors", says Mr Barrett Kalb, the attorney for Chatlos Systems.

Computer companies themselves do not seem to be particularly worried by this prospect. The market leader, *International Business Machines*, says that it has not noticed any increase in the number of cases brought by small users. A spokesman described the number of such cases against the company as "so small as to be insignificant".

Lawyers at NCR took a similar position, noting that "the United States is a very litigious country."

The computer companies are in a strong position. It hurts small companies to sue major computer sellers more than it hurts the computer companies to be sued.

Chatlos, *for instance*, has on Mr Kalb's *estimate* spent $100,000 on its case and has yet to see any money in return. What is more, even the most badly hurt computer user comes back to computers sooner or later.

Quality books is using a computer through a time-sharing service, Mr Goodman has already bought another system and Mr Thonen expects to buy another computer as soon as his company recovers financially from the impact of the first.

David Blake

Why government borrowing is going adrift

The Treasury looks like getting its sums wrong to the tune of nearly £5,000m this year in its estimate of public borrowing. That is bad for a government committed to getting borrowing down, because the figures are turning out much *higher* than forecast not lower.

But even more disturbing is the cause of this mistake. For it is now clear that it is excess expenditure which is largely to blame for the extra borrowing and much of this extra spending is not simply the financing of unemployment costs. The recession is putting the system for controlling spending of all kinds under severe strain. The volume of spending was expected to fall this year, not rise.

In November, the Chancellor said that public borrowing would be £11,500m not £8,500m and that more than £1,500m of this would be caused by the recession being deeper than expected. It is now clear that the present estimate for this year's borrowing is nearer £13,000m and that only a small amount of the shortfall is accounted for by a drop in tax receipts (from indirect taxes).

If we make allowances for the recessionary effects that the Chancellor spoke of in November and make a further adjustment for lost tax revenue, it looks likely that there may be £2,000m, or slightly more, of spending above government plans which is *not* explained by the recession in the conventional sense.

How has this happened at a time when there is a system of cash limits designed to keep spending down? One answer to this question is that much spending by the public sector is not subjected to cash limits. There are two kinds of spending which fit into this category.

The classic example of the first kind is unemployment pay, where no cash limit can be set because the amount of spending is not under the Government's control. It has to spend enough to meet the demand, which in turn is determined by the level of unemployment. Benefits generally escape the cash limit net and have risen more sharply than expected because the recession has been worse than expected.

Although there might be criticism about the assumptions which were used in drawing up the Treasury's forecast at the *time of the Budget, there* is no reasonable way to avoid this sort of problem. Extra spending of this kind would be bound to occur under any system of spending control. This is the impact of recession of which the Chancellor spoke.

Nor, in a different way, is there much that the Government could have done about the other important area where it has no control through its cash limits system—the local authorities. These seem certain to spend more than the Government had wanted them to on their current accounts.

Even the new "block grant" system would not prevent this happening, *though* it *looks* likely to cause a fair amount of havoc in the process of failing to do so. It is possible to argue that the Government's figures at the time of the last Budget were unrealistic and should have been higher. But there is not much more they could have done over the past year to force local authorities to hold their spending down.

This kind of overspending is only part of the problem. For the problems of the economy are putting very severe pressure on the cash limits system, the main system for pegging spending. In the process, a lot of the rules which seemed to have *been established* in recent *years* are being questioned.

For the private sector has responded to its severe problems in the past year by leaning more heavily than before on the Government as customer. Deliveries have been speeded up and bills have been sent in earlier.

Work for which it used to take many months to find a contractor is now snapped up very quickly. In the process, spending departments are going much closer to their cash limits than anyone expected. We shall not know until the end of the financial year whether they are going to come close to breaking these limits or whether they will actually break through them.

The one area where there is clear evidence is in defence, where the cash limits have been changed because it became obvious last year that the old limit was not going to be observed.

The Defence Department was forced to impose a moratorium on orders, so great was the extent to which it looked likely to overspend. This in part reflected the strong feeling in the Treasury that no real effort was being *made* to hold *down* the rate at which money was being spent. Treasury officials make no secret of their view that their counterparts at the defence department are a lot better at fighting battles in Whitehall than *they* are at limiting expenditure.

But a similar phenomenon on a less dramatic scale has been observable in other departments. Failing to observe cash limits is meant to be a capital offence in Whitehall, but the evidence for its happening in a number of cases this year is growing increasingly strong.

One consequence of this is that the volume of spending this year is turning out to be much higher than the Government expected. In drawing up its plans at the time of the last Budget, it assumed that about £1,300m at present prices could be deducted from projected spending because of "shortfall", the tendency of spending ministries not to use all the room for spending which they have allowed themselves.

Does it all matter? There are some good aspects of the present situation. Private industry would be in even worse state if the public sector had found a way of slowing down its receipt of goods to hold to the planned spending levels. If deliveries had occurred at the expected pace, the bankruptcies would have been more frequent and the unemployment would have been higher.

But this is a defence which could equally well be *used* in favour of planning for increased spending. The Government is right to say that it is not worried by those aspects of public borrowing which are growing because of the recession. But the growth in borrowing caused by other factors is a sign of the weakness of its control and calls for a review of the system.

Business Diary profile: The Corporation of London

City of London is two :es. It is the centre of ncial and business interests ch draw 360,000 people to k there during the day , after they go home, it is a ll residential area housing night-time population of 0, 5,000 of them in the Bar-n development.

he City also has a twin ɪ of government under the d Mayor, at present Sir ald Gardner Thorpe—the ent court of Aldermen and modern local *authority of* Court of Common Council.

: is the oldest local auth-y in the country, dating k to the days of Alfred the at, and it faithfully carries its traditions. Through the d Mayor it retains enormous tige in its City's social and monial *activities*.

hind the pomp, though, e is a growing feeling of se about the City's govern-t—that its refusal to m itself represents a real ger to its survival in the re.

e City Corporation claims it is misrepresented and, occasions, that is no so. But from the ment that Mrs Edwina en was first rejected by the rt of Aldermen in 1973 r winning her ward vote system of elections in the has been called into ques-. Now the news that some those entitled to vote in elections may vote not once but often (three s in fact) has raised the ɔrows of many observers of some of the councilmen the corporation, who were ware of it.

fter Mrs Coven had been cted twice, she stood down


The crumbling facade of Guildhall, ejecting Donald Silk and Edwina Coven before a disgruntled audience of City businessmen.

in favour of Christopher Leaver. He was elected in his ward with just two votes cast, then to be approved by the Court of Aldermen.

The next aldermanic candi-*date* to be rejected as "unsuitable" after winning his election was Donald Silk, who attempted in vain to have the veto declared invalid by the High Court.

It is an irony that, had Mrs Coven been admitted to the Court of Aldermen, it is very *likely that she would* now be poised to be the next Lord Mayor. As it is, Lady Donaldson became the first woman alderman and this year should be elected aldermanic sheriff.

She should then, in the stately progression known as seniority, complete *her* string of "firsts" by becoming the first woman Lord Mayor.

The Lord Mayor has to pay for the privilege—estimated at £25,000 to £30,000—to augment the allowance of some £90,000 received from the corporation. Likewise, the sheriffs have to add up to £10,000 of their own to the allowance of £13,000.

It is the multiple vote which is latest in the line of customs bringing the City a bad name. Under this, partners in firms *with more than one office in* the City can vote in each of the wards in which their offices stand.

Thus partners in the firm of Coopers and Lybrand, chartered accountants, can—and did—vote in three wards in the recent elections to the Court of Common Council. For some candidates it makes the difference between victory and defeat and was probably so in the case of Silk in his third attempt to become an alderman in April last year.

An internal review of the City franchise is under way as a result of growing pressure, but there is a feeling among the business interests that they—who provide most of the City's revenue—should have some say through the ballot box in the conduct of the affairs of the City in which they operate.

The fact is that 95 per cent of the City's rates are paid by limited companies, more than 99 per cent by businesses and just 0.3 per cent by the domestic ratepayers, out of a total income of £216m. Of that, the Inner London Education Authority takes £121m, the Greater London Council £47m and £3m goes to the boroughs' rate equalization fund, leaving £45m for the City, most of which goes on the City police and the Barbican.

Where, then does the power lie? There is an old boys' network operating in certain of the largest companies and in the Court of Aldermen and they wield enormous power—not least with their ability to veto aldermanic candidates.

The official view is that since the Lord Mayor is chosen from the aldermen, "it is important that only those *suitable for the appointment* come to hold it and there is a responsibility on those who have to make the election to ensure that suitable candidates appear." That view was put forward last month by Colin Dyer, then chief commoner of the corporation.

He defended the role of aldermen, whose powers "are mainly concerned with some aspects of the ancient Corporation and with the Mayoralty", but then compared their power with that of the Court of Common Council.

"Aldermen may be very influential people, but with 130 commoners to *25 Aldermen* there is no doubt where the power lies. It lies with the Commoners."

Dyer concluded that the corporation was an unusual structure, largely because of history, and required an unusual form of government. "The whole thing is unusual, but the important thing is that it works and works well."

That is not the view of critics among the councilmen, one of whom commented: "The situation is getting scandalous. We are no longer peasants living in the Middle Ages".

Nor is it the view of the Greater London Labour Party, whose manifesto for the May GLC election calls for powers to end "the anachronistic anomaly of the City of London".

Christopher Warman

Helping new businesses get off the ground

Industry in the regions

The Wirral

Just as the town of St Helens is synonymous with the glass industry and Pilkington Bros, so the Wirral area of Merseyside—on the Cheshire bank of *the Mersey—is indelibly identi*fied with Unilever.

The two industrial giants now have something else in common, since both are involved in similar, but nevertheless unique, ventures to tackle the economic problems in the areas that for years they have *tended to dominate.*

In the glass town Pilkington was the prime mover in the establishment of the Community of St Helens Trust, an organization which already has a record of success in attracting new business ventures to the town and helping *existing ones to expand.*

Now Unilever has joined forces with the local authority and the Wirral Chamber of Commerce in setting up a company—with the singularly appropriate name of In Business Ltd—to do the same sort of thing in its own area. In Business is now truly "in business", because it was formally launched a few days ago. It operates from premises provided by the local authority—a former caretaker's flat in a school building which is being vacated by the North Wirral College of Technology at Birkenhead.

The company is headed by Mr Paul Farrow, a former Unilever senior executive. He says that although a number of private and public organizations already exist to attract companies to Merseyside and encourage new enterprises, the founders of In Business believe that a joint approach by established industry, the local authority and business interests will give a new dimension to these efforts.

The aim will be to help to create a healthy small business sector in the local community.

A wide range of expertise from within Unilever, associated companies and other businesses will be available to help potential entrepreneurs draw up their plans and get started. The company will also advise businessmen and women who are contemplating expansion.

Mr Farrow says: "There is obviously a very bad unemployment problem on the Wirral. *Birkenhead, for instance,* had an unemployment rate of 15.5 per cent. We are under no illusions that we can wave a magic wand and solve that problem, but there are ways in which we can help.

"We want to foster and encourage the growth of new and existing small businesses. But we also want to help create a climate that is conducive to this by providing the facilities for an exchange of ideas."

Ultimately In Business will take over the whole of the school building and turn it into a small business centre designed to serve as a focal point for business activity in the Wirral area. It will offer conference and meeting facilities, an exhibition area and several small office units and workshops that will be let.

Mr Farrow says: "We recognize that one of the major problems confronting new business is finding suitable accommodation. By offering help in the form of office space, typing and a telephone answering service we will be able to give practical help to fledgling organizations.

"The small business man or woman often leads an isolated life, perhaps working up to 12 hours a day, and another attraction of the centre will be the opportunity for the new business fraternity to share *views and experiences and* keep up to date with the latest developments."

It is hoped that the centre will be fully operational by the autumn.

In Business will cooperate closely with the banks and other financial institutions as part of *the process of keeping* those requiring finance in touch with appropriate sources.

The company also hopes to encourage large companies and organizations in the area to examine ways in which their own commercial policies can help small businesses.

In Business's *board consists* initially of Mr Don Perry, its chairman, from Unilever UK Holdings, Mr N. P. Dadd, (UML Ltd), Mr I. G. Holt (Wirral Borough Council) and Mr S. L. Jones (Wirral Chamber of Commerce.)

Mr Perry insists that "we are not a bank or a finance house. We will not be investing in, or attempting to run, businesses".

But besides providing £50,000 a year—matched by a similar sum from the local authority—to finance the company's day-to-day operations Unilever has indicated that it will make available a so far unspecified sum to provide "pump priming" capital loans for new or expanding ventures.

Mr Farrow will be concentrating on the Wirral area in his attempts to smell out potential enterprises and individuals with "a good idea". He has a trained nose. One of his many executive posts with Unilever was a ten-year stint as sales manager and marketing manager for what Unilever likes to call its "fragrance" company, Proprietary Perfumes at Ashford.

R. W. Shakespeare

Textile closure hits Hirst & Mallinson

By Rosemary Unsworth

Hirst & Mallinson, the catering-to pharmaceuticals group based in Huddersfield, traded profitably, as forecast, in the second half but nevertheless slipped into losses at the year end.

Pretax losses came to £204,000 compared with £295,000 pretax profit while turnover in the year to November 1 was £15m against £18.6m for the previous 53 weeks.

The group's decision to pull out of textile manufacturing was the main reason for the downturn as it was forced to complete loss making contracts and also incurred closedown costs which ran into six figures. More than 350 employees were made redundant.

"The rationalization of this part of the company's business was complete at the year end and it will not be possible for textiles to have a significantly adverse effect either on future profits or liquidity," Mr Michael Crompton, the chairman, said.

Pharmaceutical distribution showed a profits improvement in the last quarter which it has maintained into the current year and catering is performing well in a tough market.

Exports to the Middle East were held back by the war between Iran and Iraq although trade with Africa, including Zambia and Nigeria, improved.

In addition the group has developed a division selling computer-based business systems, derived from its experience in using such machinery in its distribution activities. This move forms part of the policy of reducing group vulnerability to seasonal trends and fashion swings, Mr Crompton said.

Medium-term borrowings were more than halved to £211,000 while cash deposits increased by a third to £318,000 as plant was sold following closures.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	14%
Barclays	14%
BCCI	14%
Consolidated Crdts	14%
C. Hoare & Co	*14%
Lloyds Bank	14%
Midland Bank	14%
Nat Westminster	14%
Rossminster	14%
TSB	14%
Williams and Glyn's	14%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 11½%, up to £50,000 12½%, over £50,000 13½%.

Dilemma for Lloyds over dividend

This week

Lloyds Bank faces a dilemma over how large a final dividend to pay when it announces results on Friday.

An increase of 20 to 25 per cent could be covered, according to profit forecasts, but would be a sensitive issue since pay negotiations are aiming at 13 per cent limits. After the 22 per cent increase at the interim stage, and taking into account the wage settlements, 15 per cent is probably the increase to look for.

The most optimistic profits estimates suggest £294m pretax in the year to December against £276m last time but this will depend largely on the provision for bad debts, which has been forecast at an increase of 150 to 250 per cent. All the same, Lloyds will be one of the few big banks to report increased profits. Barclays, committed to a 20 per cent dividend increase, National Westminster and the Midland all follow shortly with results.

Lloyds' increase will come partly from Lloyds International, which has found success recently by moving out of money markets into loans and has seen a 63 per cent profits rise in the year.

Other companies reporting this week include Dalgety, BOC, Hoover, Birmid Qualcast and Wedgwood. It will be interesting to see how Wedgwood, often considered the bellwether of British exporters, has managed in its third quarter. Forecasts are looking for up to £1m in pretax profits for the quarter when it reports on Wednesday. This is the traditionally good Christmas buying period in a year that has seen fluctuating results—a poor first quarter of £176,000 pretax followed by a high second quarter of £1.48m.

Although exports are said to have retained 63 per cent of sales by volume, profit margins have been crippled by the strength of sterling. *Full year* results are expected to be £4m, compared with £6.2m last time. With borrowings of some £2.5m, Wedgwood is relatively highly geared at 49 per cent.

BOC, reporting on Wednesday its first quarter results to December, is heading for £15.2m pretax against £12.4m last time. After good results last year, particularly from its South African and Australian companies, and the Erco subsidiary in the United States, BOC took a look at its United Kingdom interests which were not doing as well. This led to rationalization in United Kingdom concerns and the closure of 12 small businesses. As a result, BOC is hoping for better figures from the United Kingdom this year.

Figures from Hoover on Thursday for the year to December will show both the £1m cost of redundancies carried out last year and the continued pressures from the strong pound. Estimates put pretax profits at about £2m for the year compared with £3 last year. On top of this come exchange losses, which are expected to be similar to last year's total of £1.9m.

Although Hoover has seen the end of the most drastic destocking from retailers, it still faces competition from imports. Traditionally, Italian washing machines are its main competitor, but there has been increasing competition from Poland and Spain. Hoover's Australian and South African subsidiaries have continued to perform well. The interim dividend was cut from 5.6p net to 4p and a similar reduction is forecast. It has been suggested by some that the final may be *passed*.

The plight of engineering concerns in the West Midlands will be underlined on Wednesday with full-year results from Birmid Qualcast, the maker of components for the automotive industries and one of the largest independent foundry companies in the UK. It is feared that the worst is not yet over and that further closures and redundancies may be imminent. British Leyland trucks and cars and Massey Ferguson tractors are Birmid's main customers.

Although the car market has picked up lately, Birmid will be hit by the continued downturn of demand for trucks and tractors, and increased competition from abroad.

Sir Arthur Bryan, chairman of Wedgwood.

After profits in the first half of £4.8m, pretax losses for the year are expected to be between £2 and £3m. With exceptional items of some £3m, this will give Birmid a breakeven point for the year. Last July Birmid closed six works and foundries with the loss of 2,400 jobs. Several plants are on short-time working. Crisis hit Birmid in April, immediately after first half results, and production is not thought to have picked up since October. It is likely that the final dividend will be omitted.

This week sees a plethora of economic reports. On Thursday the public sector borrowing requirement and details of local authority borrowings for the fourth quarter are due. In light of money supply figures for January, the PSBR will be looked at for further evidence that inflation is coming under control.

TODAY—Interims: Thomas Nationwide Transport, Westminster and Country Properties. Finals: Drake and Scull.

TOMORROW—Interims: Abercom Group, Epicure Holdings, Impala Platinum Holdings, Manson Finance (amended), Meat Trade Suppliers, Reliance Knitwear Group, Joseph Webb, Wedgwood (nine months). Finals: Ernest Jones, First Scottish American Trust, Meldrum Investment Trust, Vereeniging Refractories, West Coast and Texas Regional Investment Trust.

WEDNESDAY—Interims: BOC International (first quarter), Dalgety, Eleco Holdings, United Real Property Trust. Finals: Birmid Qualcast, Copenhagen Handelsbank, General Consolidations Investment Trust, Securicor Group, Security Services, Updown Investment Co, United States Debenture Corp, and Yeoman Investment Trust.

THURSDAY—Interims: Daejan Holdings, English Association Group, Leaderflush. Finals: Adams and Gibbons, Anglo American Coal Corp, Associated Fisheries, Goode Durrant and Murray, Hoover, Marchwiel, Newbold and Burton Holdings, Scottish Eastern Investment Trust, Sharpe and Fisher, Wm Whittingham.

FRIDAY—Interims: Dale Electric International. Finals: Abbey Panels, Lloyds, Romney Trust.

Margareta Pagano

Berkeley looks to optimistic future

Berkeley Exploration and Production, the recently floated exploration arm of KCA International, hoping to find commercial quantities of oil and gas under the North Sea and elsewhere, has published its first accounts for the period from September 12, 1979 to December 31, last.

Berkeley was the first public flotation under Stock Exchange Rule 163(3) which covered companies that do not meet all the requirements of those fully listed.

Mr Colin Orr-Ewing, executive chairman, said that: "We started the year as an idea and we have finished the year as a young and vigorous independent". It has however yet to make a discovery. But Mr Orr-Ewing argues that Berkeley: "Should retain the appeal of a company which, with a current market capitalization of about £11m, should be highly affected by a substantial North Sea find."

In the North Sea the group will probably drill between one and three wells a year. To ease the expense it will try to share its exposure with several companies or institutions.

To balance North Sea exposure, Berkeley has invested in low-risk exploration in the United States where the pay offs are quick. As forecast in the prospectus, the group has not yet called on shareholders for the balance of 50p on the partly paid shares. But it is anticipated that Berkeley will formally call for the balance early in April. The issue price of the £1 shares, 50p paid, was soon overtaken. The shares shot to 128p a year ago in early dealings. They are now 246p.

Uncertain climate for S. W. Berisford

The accounts of S. & W. Berisford, the international trader involved in merchanting, processing and distributing raw materials, especially sugar and cocoa, come at a time when the group still does not know whether the Monopolies and Mergers Commission will approve its bid for British Sugar Corporation. This was announced as long ago as last May and it was referred on June 3.

In his annual statement, Mr Ephraim Margulies, chairman, pointed out that the Commission has until March 3 to finish its report. He added: "We have so far been given no indication of how soon thereafter the findings will be announced and the report published." The chairman said that the bid was in the interests of everyone "not least, the Government which would have the opportunity in line with stated policy to divest itself of an *investment in the* private sector."

At present, Berisford has a stock market value of nearly £203m. By contrast, British Sugar is valued at around £156m. The original offer was of three Berisford shares and 383p cash for every four shares in British Sugar.

That bid values British Sugar at just over 231p a share. Today, the share price is 263p. In the interval BSC has strongly resisted Berisford's approach, *revalued assets*, and hoisted its own profits. Net assets are now 415p a share.

Mr Margulies stressed Berisford's continuing strength which lies in diversity. With one eye presumably on renewal of the struggle for BSS, he gave little away in noting that recession would probably be around for some time. The directors, he said, were as determined as ever *that growth would con*tinue.

In the year to September 30 pretax profits went from £32.2m to £36.1m, nearly as fast as sales. But so far it has proved *impossible* for the group to indicate current cost profits. Net assets last September were 146p a share. Net bank borrowings were 52 per cent of shareholders' funds.

Diamond exploration hopes in Ontario

International

Diamond Survey of Toronto, a subsidiary of Selection Trust, will need to carry out further tests to determine if it has found diamonds near Hearst, *Ontario*.

Exploration is at a very early stage. Bulk sample testing will ultimately be required to see if in fact any of these pipes contain diamonds. If they do, further testing will be needed to determine whether a commercial deposit exists.

The company said: "In considering this programme it must be appreciated that of the thousands of such pipes identified to date throughout the world only a small number have been found to contain diamonds in economic quantities".

Selection Trust and Esso Resources Canada, a subsidiary of Imperial Oil, each have a half interest in the joint venture which is exploring for diamonds, gold and base metals in the Hearst region.

Bond issue by IMI

IMI, the medium-term credit institution Istituto Mobiliare Italiano, is to issue two open-ended bonds on the Italian domestic capital market.

One issue with a maximum seven-year life, repayable in equal annual tranches from 1983, would have a fixed 1[illegible] per cent annual coupon. The other, with a maximum five year life, would carry a floating rate half-yearly coupon based on prime rates and average bond yields. Both issues will be at par.

Malaysia buys into Harrisons

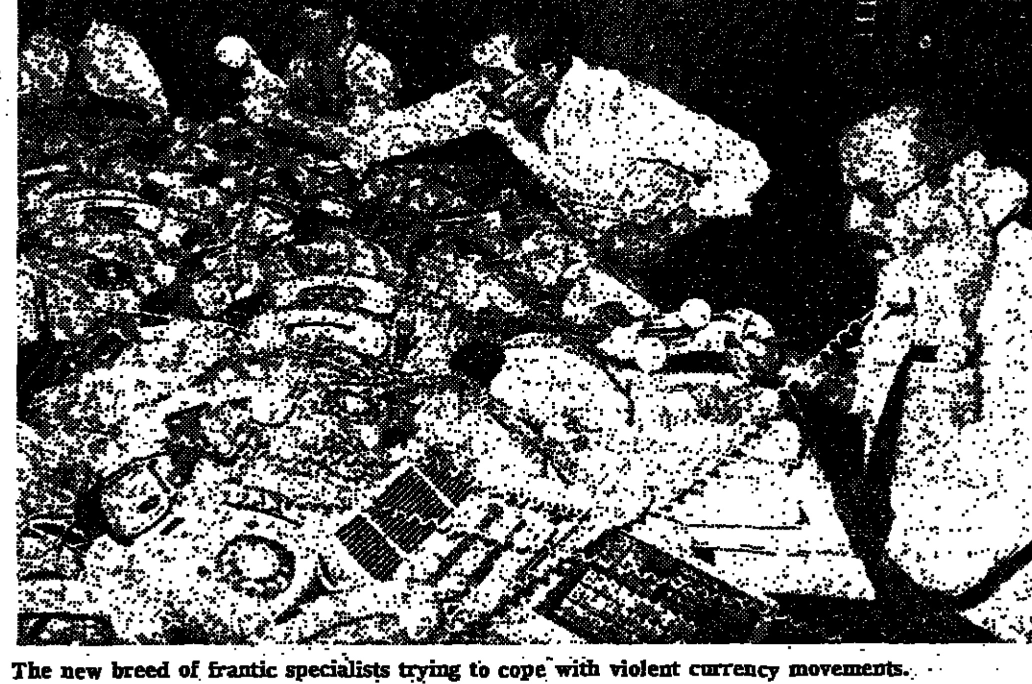
Asiavest Merchant Bankers has placed 4.71 million shares in Harrisons and Crosfield with the Malaysian National Equity Corporation at 700p each. The shares, worth around £33m and equal to about 8 per cent of the group's issued capital, came from Genting and Kien Huat Realty.

Asiavest said that Genting holds 2.56 million shares and Kien Huat 2.15 million of them. The sale depends on Genting shareholders agreeing at an extraordinary general meeting, and on the blessing of the Malysian authorities.

Genting's money will be placed on deposit *until it* can be invested for further expansion. The sale, according to Asiavest, should increase Genting's assets a share by 55 Malaysian cents from 1.51 Ringgit at the end of December, 1979, the last published figure.

Genting runs hotels and a casino. It also has interests in property and plantations. Kien Huat is the family company of Genting's chairman, Tan Sri Lim Goh Tong. The Malaysian National Equity Corporation, or Permodalan Nasional, is the investment agency which will run the national unit trust. Harrisons and Crosfield is in industrial raw materials, timber, commodity merchanting, shipping insurance and finance besides plantations. The Kuwait Investment Office has nearly a tenth of the shares.

How to play the foreign exchange game



The new breed of frantic specialists trying to cope with violent currency movements.

Foreign exchange is one of those magic phrases which evoke crises, gnomes, frantic specialists with a telephone in each hand and breathless reporters in front of dealing rooms on television when the pound, the dollar or whatever sinks or soars. Violent movements of currencies have given birth to a new, almost fashionable, breed of man. The foreign exchange specialist is youngish, often balding, and reputedly ages quickly because of the stress of his work. Things used not to be that exciting.

Foreign exchange used to be an esoteric and rather remote craft, often practised by men on the point of retirement. The

Briefing

period which spans the signing of the Bretton Woods agreements on fixed parities in 1946 to their collapse in 1971 will pass into the history of money as a happy and peaceful time.

Not only were the rules extremely precise and simple about how much each currency could move against the others and how it could change in value, but *also everyone knew* the ranking of every national currency. The dollar was almighty and at the top of the pile.

All this changed because the dollar, the centrepiece of the system fell from grace. Efforts to revive it with the so-called Smithsonian parities came to naught as unwanted paper dollars kept on moving from the United States into other countries.

Ever since, the world has lived in a free-for-all on exchange rates, called the free-floating currencies. The story, and how to play the new game, is well told in a new book: *Foreign Exchange Management* by Professor T. W. McRae and Mr David P. Walker, two experienced hands at this business.

It is intended as a practical guide on foreign exchange. *Although both authors* are obviously up to date on academic thinking, pragmatic it is. It includes for example such questions as: You are the Treasurer of a large corporation with $1m to invest for three months. Do you place it in dollars at 5.83 per cent, or sterling at 8.75 per cent? Answer, after a simple arithmetical demonstration: in dollars which give a marginally better return after expenses, and forward cover, against a fall in sterling.

Here is another question: Provide an example of the profit on foreign exchange arising from the sale of 10,000 widgets from a Californian corporation to a British company. Assume a rise in sterling against the dollar. All solid hard nuts and bolts stuff of use to anyone interested in foreign exchange.

The authors go into all aspects of foreign exchange *starting with a useful chapter* on the development of the international monetary system. It encompasses such items as the mechanics of the business, strategies for managing exposure to foreign exchange risk, tax on gains and losses and a review of exchange control regulations.

We hear and read so many pundits predicting monetary fluctuations that this is a timely *review of their mysterious craft*—or is witchcraft a better word? There are so many theories, and firms specializing in them—and almost each one has been right at some time or another—that it is, of course, impossible to review them all. But the authors have made a good review at the main theories and some of the better known organizations.

It is rightly pointed out that the would-be forecaster must not only understand economics and finance, but also be aware of international politics. This makes life rather difficult, and most of the time unpredictable, because few people can accurately anticipate short-term fluctuations in the world's economy or politics.

It is true that pressure on exchange rates accumulates slowly and that a change takes place only after a time and then suddenly. Yet for most of those who may have to take *decisions timing is all important*.

It is of little use to know that in the very long run sterling will either be up or down against this or that currency. The reasoning may be right, but it may take years before it becomes accurate. With all these complexities it is not surprising that the authors find in the end that "exchange rate forecasting *under a floating regime would* seem to be unproven".

There are two distinct attitudes on foreign exchange risks. The aggressive attitude is in effect one where exchange risks are the main determinants of invoicing and forward cover decisions. In this case it is the expectation of gain on the exchange that is more important than the actual sale of any goods. The aggressive company will tend to invoice its goods in what it hopes will be an appreciating currency.

It would also borrow in that currency which minimizes the real cost of money, that is interest and expected to exchange gains.

The defensive attitude is to try to invoice in the home currency, and where this is not possible to immediately cover whatever views the investor takes of exchange rate movements.

There are some well chronicled *examples of too aggressive* postures leading to huge losses. Not surprisingly the authors recommend companies to take the defensive posture unless they can anticipate currency fluctuations.

All in all this is a useful book for anyone interested in or remotely involved in foreign exchange. But what it lacks is the lore that has developed in this relatively young business. *Where are the stories of the* small clerk that made a bomb on foreign exchange dealing and has retired to the *Riviera*, or the banks that collapsed because of too much confidence in their predictive ability.

Foreign Exchange Management by Professor T. W. McRae and Mr David P. Walker. £15.95.

Roman Eisenstein
Banking Correspondent

Director of finance for Pentos

Mr Ian A. Duncan has joined the board of Pentos as finance director.

Mr D. M. Elliott is to become director of management services at the National Nuclear Corporation, Risley.

Mr David Morphet, an Under Secretary in the Department of Energy, is joining the board of BICC Cables as a non-executive director.

Mr Alan Curtis has become a non-executive director of Lotus Cars.

Mr K. S. Whitehouse is the new managing director of NEI International Combustion, replacing Mr J. G. Anderson, who joined the main board of NEI in November.

Mr D. J. Loveridge will succeed Mr R. G. Gayther, who is retiring as managing director of Stephenson Clarke Industrial Fuels and of Powell Duffryn International Fuels on April 1.

Mr Richard S. Truelove, director and general manager of Brown Brothers' Middle East operations, is now a director of Brown Brothers (Overseas), the export subsidiary.

Mr Derek Wynne-Jones has joined the board of the international development division of PA Management Consultants.

Mr J. Nigel Macdonald is the new managing director of Harry Fenton, a subsidiary of Combined English Stores Group.

Mr Peter Gould has become assistant managing director of Laing Management Contracting, the Luton-based company in the John Laing Group.

Mr Michael I. Sovern, president of Colombia University, has become a director of Chemical New York Corporation and its main subsidiary, Chemical Bank.

Mr Stanley Waring is to be a non-executive director of Beatson Clark & Co. Mr Michael A. Godber has become a financial director.

St Andrew Trust: Dividend 6.3p (5.6p) net for 1980. Net revenue available for distribution £807,000 (£830,000 including £115,000 non recurring). Eps 6.8p (7.03p including 1p non recurring). Nav per share 188.8p (152.2p).

Briefly

Anvil Petroleum: Anvil Petroleum (formerly Attock Petroleum) reports that its offshoot, North Sea Petroleums, has applied for a licence to explore for hydrocarbons covering an onshore area of 300 square miles between the east side of Lough Foyle and Ballycastle and the adjacent offshore area extending up to the three mile limit. North Sea Petroleums as operator will have a 2[illegible] per cent interest in the consortium and the other participants are Ulster Bank, Ulster Natural *Resources, Gaelic Oil and Eglin*ton Oil and Gas.

Colonial Securities Trust: Revenue, after all charges, for 1980, £333,000 (£322,000). Total dividend on deferred stock, 16.4[illegible] (15p).

UDT: Rowe & Pitman has bought for the Trustee Savings Bank Central Board 6m ordinary shares in United Dominions Trust at 5[illegible] each.

General Investors and Trustees: A new one-year loan facility of *£2.5m has been arranged* with Manufacturers Hanover Trust. The loan has been drawn down for the full period of one year to Feb [illegible] 1982, at an interest rate of 13 3/[illegible] per cent.

Cardinal Investment Trust: A new one-year loan facility of £1.5m has been arranged with Manufacturers Hanover Trust. The loan has been drawn down for the full period of one year to February 15, 19[illegible] at an interest rate of 13.3/16 per cent.

Brooke Tool Engineering (Holdings): The chairman, Mr D. Saunders, reports in his annual statement that Brooke Tool enjoys a leading position in each of its *specialised* market sectors in the United Kingdom, but they have shown a *significant* decline *in orders recently*, with unfavourable impact on production and profitability. Too many engineering companies are competing for an ever-decreasing amount of business and he warns *that* it will become progressively more difficult to maintain present levels of earnings, let alone achieve the five-year growth targets Brooke has set.

Minster Assets: Britannia Arrow has acquired a further 700,[illegible] shares in Minster Assets and now holds 5.82m shares (17 per cent).

Butlin's (subsidiary of Rank Org): Turnover for year to October 31, 1980, £73.74m (£64.98m). Pretax profits, £8.64m (£7.95m).

City and Foreign Investment: Dividend of 0.7p for 1980, compared with nil last time. After revenue, £37,000 (£675). Level of *income in 1980 is likely to pr*ove exceptional and it should not be assumed that any dividend will be paid for 1981.

Turnbull Scott: Board of Turnbull says that subject to increased offer of 430p announced by Hunting Gibson for Stag Line on February 12 being posted to shareholders of Stag, it is the intention that offer of 400p a share announced by Turnbull be withdrawn.

Mergers cleared: Following proposed mergers are not to be referred to the Monopolies Commission. General Electric Company; Picker Corporation; Argyll Foods; Oriel Foods; Trustee Savings Bank; United Dominions Trust.

Kuwait stake in THF

The Kuwait Investment Office has disclosed a holding in Trusthouse Forte, of just over 5 per cent, the level at which *disclosure is required*.

Tokyo credit move

Japan is studying measures to match credit terms given by western nations *on industrial* plant exports, to prevent a [illegible] advantage in competing orders.

The Over-the-Counter Market

Capitalisation £000's	Company	Last Price	Ch'ge on week	Gross Div(p)	Yld %	P/E
3,642	Airsprung Group	63	+1	6.7	10.6	5.7
1,075	Armitage & Rhodes	43	+1	1.4	3.3	17.7
11,609	Bardon Hill	190	+1	9.7	5.1	7.1
7,308	Deborah Services	95	+1	5.5	5.8	4.7
3,974	Frank Horsell	106	−4	6.4	6.0	3.3
7,353	Frederick Parker	51	−1	11.0	21.6	2.3
1,576	George Blair	74	—	3.1	4.2	—
2,650	Jackson Group	106	−1	6.9	6.5	4.0
16,562	James Burrough	120	−1	7.9	6.6	9.8
3,366	Robert Jenkins	330	—	31.3	9.5	—
2,580	Scruttons "A"	53	—	5.3	10.0	3.8
3,323	Torday Limited	216	+1	15.1	7.0	3.7
2,511	Twinlock Ord	11¾	−¼	—	—	—
1,966	Twinlock 15% ULS	72	−4	15.0	20.8	—
5,951	Unilock Holdings	39	+2	3.0	7.7	6.0
12,779	Walter Alexander	101	−1	5.7	5.6	5.6
6,138	W. S. Yeates	263	+3	12.1	4.6	4.3

Barclays in voice and data project

Cable and Wireless, the state-owned telecommunications company, has joined forces with Barclays Merchant Bank to establish a private network carrying voice and data in competition with British Telecom (Bill Johnstone writes).

Last September the bank issued a memorandum to selected City investors to measure their interest.

The bank says that the response was very favourable although it is not clear whether it has been seeking financial backing or potential business.

The venture will depend on the Secretary of State excercising the powers contained in the Telecommunications Bill, which allows him to permit the private sector to offer "value-added" services such as data *communication or retreval not* provided by British Telecom.

The Telecommunications Bill will also allow the Government to sell Cable and Wireless. Nearly all the company's business is conducted overseas, although Cable and Wireless UK Services has traded in Britain since 1976.

Some problems for investors in gilts

The worst is over, according to most City pundits, and with inflation falling to its lowest level for 19 months the market was looking last week for Mr Geoffrey Howe to introduce a reflationary package in his Budget on March 10.

Equities were quick to respond with the *FT* Index jumping 12.3 points in the first week of the current three-week account. But gilts remained subdued, sinking under the *weight of a further £1,000m of* tap stock which began trading last Thursday.

In their gilt market comment Mr Peter Scott and Mr David Osman of brokers Car Sebag, *pinpoint some of the problems* faced by investors in the gilts market during January.

These included heavy funding in the form of large calls on partly-paid stocks, plus low*ish levels of investor liquidity*, evaporating faith in Government policies, fears of slowing cash inflows, and the apparent prospect of a never-ending and altogether excessive flood of new issues. None of this was conducive to the expected seasonal upturn in gilts in January.

However, the darkest hour may have passed, they add.

It is probably unreasonable to expect confidence in official forecasts to recover quickly, given the misleading prognosticastions of the past twelve months. Nonetheless, the vig*orous reaffirmation of a prom*ise to do better is, they believe, encouraging. There can be no doubt that the Budget will contain further net deflation of £1,000m to £2,000m and that the resulting P.S.B.R. profile 1981/82 will be fundable even if the margin for error will be slim.

Brokers' views

In addition, most economic indicators remain positive in*fluences. In particular*, they expect, inflation, money supply, growth and short-term interest rates to deccelerate more or less simultaneously. Recovering institutional liquidity from now on should bring renewed interest in yield levels, which are discounting previous failures in economic policy. On this basis they conclude that gilts must be considered a buy.

Mr David M. Shaw, of brokers Fielding Newson-Smith, remains cautiously optimistic. He points out that while the gilt edged market bounced off the 68 support level, it failed to at*tain the 69.8 resistance level*. However, February's news background seems to offer little promise of a major breakout from this trading range, although were such a breakout likely to occur it is much more likely to be on the upside.

Although he does not rule out the possibility of a reduction in MLR sometime this month, he is sceptical about the enthusiasm that this is likely to generate within the market.

Mr Geoffrey Finn of brokers Rowe & Pitman, reckons that the market has now become reconciled to a P.S.B.R. of £13,000m for 1981/82, but calls on the *Chancellor* to present his Budget proposals in a way which will restore the credibility of the medium-term financial strategy. In particular, he must avoid last year's miscalculations on projected trends in public expenditure, output and employment, and the over-optimism on borrowing by local authorities and public corporations.

He also urges investors to take full advantage of the recent steepening of the yield curve by lengthening the average life of their portfolios and by switching into long-dated gilts. In this way the prospective volatility rewards of the expected fall in interest rates will be maximized.

Switching to the food sector Mr R. A. R. Brand, of brokers Williams de Broe Hill Chaplin, says the food manufacturing sector has outperformed the All Share Index for the third month in a row. He also points to the exceptionally strong performances by ABM, Northern Foods, Rowntree and United Biscuits, while making special mention of Argyll Foods, where the shares returned from suspension last week following the *recent Oriel acquisition*.

United Biscuits are also talked about by Mr John Marshall and Miss Susan Leslie, analysts of brokers Carr Sebag. They say that the year's profits will be well below most expectations

Michael Clark

MARKET REPORTS

Trading prospects look bleak

The prospect of renewed Russian chartering caused a ripple of interest in the dry cargo market last week but the reports turned out to be unfounded. However, the Russians were credited with the booking of the 26,500-ton Asia Prosperity taken for a transatlantic trip at around $8,500 a day with delivery in mid-February at Key West and redelivery in the Skaw-Passero range. This appeared to be a one-off fixture so hopes among brokers of a stronger presence faded.

The past seven days has brought no decision from President Reagan on the grain embargo. Even if it is lifted, it does not mean that Russia would be able to buy unlimited supplies. It is now being hinted that any policy related to restricting future purchases by the Soviet Union could be linked to discussions on the renewal of the existing five-year deal which expires at the end of September. According to the United States Department of Agriculture, Russia will import some 34.5 million tonnes of grain in the July 1980-June 1981 period.

The fluctuating trading pattern of the dry cargo sector so far this year continues, although there is some feeling among brokers and charterers that the grain area is beginning to settle. Certainly, the demand for tonnage to ship this commodity, especially from North America, is strong. A steady volume of fixing from European continental ports to Italy and the Middle East is also being maintained.

Freight

Transatlantic rates were stable with a 70,000 tonner from the United States Gulf to the Antwerp-Hamburg range securing $18.70 and an 87,000 tonner to Holland gaining $18. Rates for smaller vessels were not so firm despite a good number of fixtures being concluded to destinations in Europe, the Far East and South America.

Among other voyage business, sugar particularly featured. The amount of time chartering was similar to that of late with interest in period fixtures still being displayed. One 19,000 tonner was taken for seven-nine months trading at $7,350 a day.

Conditions in the tanker market showed no signs of improving. The one bright area continued to be the Caribbean which is experiencing a buoyant demand for *tonnage*, predominantly for shipments to America. Even so, brokers consider that rates still lag behind the current level of activity and, although a firmer underlying trend is being felt, no real improvement has been forthcoming.

In the Gulf, a spate of VLCC fixing late only seemed to indicate that rates had weakened further so making it tougher for owners to cover even their operating *costs*. This spate included the booking by Socal of a 275,000 tonner to the United Kingdom/continent on the basis of world scale twenty six (10 knots) or world scale twenty eight (14 knots). This reflects a drop of around one point on earlier transactions for westbound charters.

David Robinson

Weekly list of fixed interest stocks

	Latest price	Prev price		Latest price	Prev price		Latest price	Prev price
[illegible]								

Less hope of rally this summer

Trading in a new type of warrant suggests that Eurobond market participants are no longer confident of a substantial decline in long-term interest rates this summer, analysts say, *writes AP-DJ.*

A few international dollar bonds have been issued recently with detachable warrants to buy a like amount of similar bonds. These issues were designed to attract investors who foresee falling interest rates.

For instance, Credit National, the French state lending agency, floated a $50m five-year note issue in December at par, bearing 13.75 per cent. Each note carries a warrant to buy at par a like amount of 10-year bonds bearing 13.75 per cent. If interest rates decline before the warrants expire in July, the warrants would become more valuable. This is because the price of the 13.75 per cent coupon bond would have to rise above the exercise price of the warrants to bring the bond yield down to market levels.

However, Credit National's warrants declined $5 this week to $17.50 bid, $25 offered. Traders said the decline reflects an increasing pessimism about the outlook for long-term interest rates.

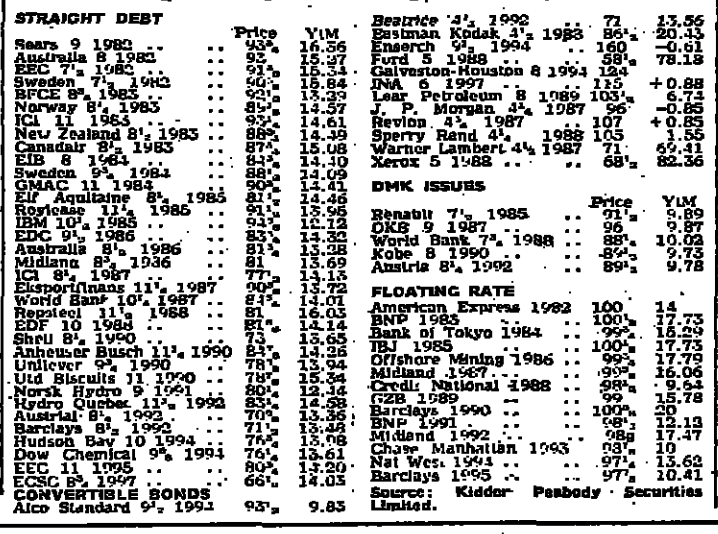
"There is a definite change in sentiment, people are starting to believe that a future bull market is a longer way off than the life of the warrants," Mr William Steen, an executive director of Chase Manhattan, says.

Market technicians also note that the deposit market is no longer anticipating a decline in short-term interest rates over the next six months. At the end of December, one-month dollar deposits in London were 19.31 per cent offered—three months 17.94 per cent offered and six months 16.94 per cent offered. As the maturity lengthened, the interest rate declined. Analysts say this so-called inversion of the yield curve reflected expectations that interest rates would decline this summer.

Euromarkets

However, as of Friday, the one-month rate was 18.06 per cent offered, three months 18.31 per cent and six months 18.31 per cent offered. Thus, the market now appears to be working on the assumption that interest rates may not decline by very much over the next three to six months, technicians say.

What appears to have caused optimism about interest rates to fade is concern over the size of the United States budget deficit which, some analysts believe, will put a strain on capital markets.



Eurobond prices (yields and premiums)

STRAIGHT DEBT	Price	YTM
Sears 9 1982	93¾	16.56
Australia 8 1982	93	15.37
EEC 7½ 1982	91⅞	15.34
Sweden 7½ 1982	90½	15.84
BFCE 8¾ 1983	92½	13.39
Norway 8¼ 1983	89½	14.57
ICI 11 1983	93¼	14.61
New Zealand 8½ 1983	88¾	14.49
Canadair 8½ 1983	87¼	15.08
EIB 8 1984	83¾	14.40
Sweden 9¾ 1984	88½	14.09
GMAC 11 1984	90¾	14.41
Elf Aquitaine 8¼ 1985	81½	14.46
Roylease 11¼ 1986	91¼	13.95
IBM 10¼ 1985	93⅞	12.72
EDC 9½ 1986	83¼	14.32
Australia 8½ 1986	81¾	13.28
Midland 8¾ 1986	81	13.69
ICI 8¼ 1987	77½	14.13
Eksportfinans 11½ 1987	90¾	13.72
World Bank 10½ 1987	84¾	14.01
Repsteel 11½ 1988	81	16.03
EDF 10 1988	81⅞	14.14
Shell 8¼ 1990	73	13.65
Anheuser Busch 11¾ 1990	84⅞	14.26
Unilever 9¾ 1990	78¼	13.94
Utd Biscuits 11 1990	78⅞	15.34
Norsk Hydro 9 1991	80¼	12.44
Hydro Quebec 11½ 1992	83¼	14.58
Austria 8¼ 1992	70¾	13.36
Barclays 8½ 1992	71½	13.48
Hudson Bay 10 1994	76¾	13.08
Dow Chemical 9⅞ 1994	76¼	13.61
EEC 11 1995	80¾	13.20
ECSC 8¾ 1997	66¼	14.03
CONVERTIBLE BONDS		
Alco Standard 9½ 1994	93½	9.85
Beatrice 4½ 1992	71	13.56
Eastman Kodak 4½ 1988	86½	20.43
Enserch 9½ 1994	160	−0.61
Ford 5 1988	58½	78.18
Galveston-Houston 8 1994	124	
INA 6 1997	115	+0.88
Lear Petroleum 8 1989	103½	6.74
J. P. Morgan 4¼ 1987	96	−0.85
Revlon 4¾ 1987	107	+0.85
Sperry Rand 4¼ 1988	105	1.55
Warner Lambert 4½ 1987	71	69.41
Xerox 5 1988	68½	82.36
DMK ISSUES	**Price**	**YTM**
Renault 7½ 1985	91½	9.89
OKB 9 1987	96	9.87
World Bank 7¾ 1988	88¼	10.02
Kobe 8 1990	89½	9.73
Austria 8¼ 1992	89½	9.78
FLOATING RATE		
American Express 1982	100	14
BNP 1985	100½	17.73
Bank of Tokyo 1984	99¾	18.29
IBJ 1985	100¼	17.73
Offshore Mining 1986	99¾	17.79
Midland 1987	99⅞	16.06
Credit National 1988	98¾	9.64
GZB 1989	99	15.78
Barclays 1990	100⅛	20
BNP 1991	98½	12.13
Midland 1992	98⅛	17.47
Chase Manhattan 1993	98⅞	10
Nat West 1994	97¼	13.62
Barclays 1995	97⅞	10.41

Source: Kidder Peabody Securities Limited.

The possibilities for London in petroleum

A commodities bandwagon, new to London, started rolling officially last week. The International Petroleum Exchange (IPE) was launched, and Mr Michael Marks, president of the New York Mercantile Exchange, (NYMEX) was in London to help the process along. There is a widespread feeling that the IPE could become a very big market, and enthusiasm was barely suppressed. Are the feeling justified?

NYMEX is the only market trading in petroleum producers, and must therefore be the main evidence called. Without doubt it has been a very successful market, so much so that it virtually saved the exchange from oblivion. It is understandable that the New York traders should be rooting for an expansion of petroleum futures business.

What nearly killed the NYMEX was the great potato scandal of 1976, nearly repeated in 1979. It may be difficult to take the humble spud seriously as a commodity—perhaps that has hindered the Potato Futures Market in London—but a lot of money can be tied up in it. When two traders declined to deliver the promised 50 million pounds of potatoes to the NYMEX they very nearly destroyed the whole exchange. Without that liquidity and commitment to physical delivery no futures market can survive.

That is one of oil's major attractions. It is the world's most widely traded commodity, underpinned by a cash flow of Niagara proportions. The chances of a sudden drastic shortage of physical supply or of finance are remote. Last week's trading in the NYMEX's no 2 heating oil contract totalled $1,000m, about two-thirds of the exchange's entire business. But, as Mr Marks says: "We have a market in the States we haven't even begun to tap yet."

Since trading in the heating oil contract started in November 1978 the number of contracts traded has risen rapidly, and the rate is still accelerating. In 1979 the number traded was 33,837, and last year it was 238,284. NYMEX is a small exchange — the smallest of the seven in America—offering other contracts in potatoes, platinum, palladium, and beef. The gold and silver coin bag futures contracts have been quiescent for more than a year. The total number of contracts traded in all commodities last year was 1,154,905.

Commodities

But even allowing for the disproportionate impact of the heating oil contract, it is clear that oil companies, oil traders, and private speculators are just becoming aware of the huge possibilities that the market holds. Mr Marks says that about 60 per cent of the NYMEX heating oil contracts are bought and sold by the oil trade, which contrary to some expectations is going both long and short. The 40 per cent traded by speculators is a relatively low percentage by American standards.

This trade support is vital, and is the backing for which the IPE is so anxiously hoping. Encouragement from the trade has prompted the NYMEX to apply for a similar heating oil contract delivered in the Gulf instead of New York. There are two incentives. One is that the Gulf, essentially meaning Texas in this context, is the spiritual and financial centre of the American oil world.

It is no accident that the NYMEX contract of 1,000 barrels (about 139 tonnes, depending on specific gravity, compared with the IPE's 100 tonnes) can be traded in the 25 lots which is the minimum for using the pipelines from the Gulf to the north-east.

The second incentive is simply the fabled Texan millionaires. A Gulf contract would bring in both the world oil trade and the private money.

Such considerations have doubtless influenced the Chicago Board of Trade in its application to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for permission to trade a Gulf heating oil contract. If Chicago follows New York in starting a futures market it is certainly time to take notice. Not to be left out, the NYMEX is actively looking at leaded regular and unleaded regular gasoline contracts.

The ambition is to branch out into the whole energy field, dealing possibly in coal, propane, natural gas, and even crude oil itself. The great disadvantage here is that the lower down the distillation process one goes, the harder it is to guarantee product quality. But the principle of energy futures recognizes the demand for energy and the volatility which characterizes its pricing. If the IPE can pursue the same course last week's optimism may well be sound.

● Not overawed by oil, some brave spirits are hoping to start a New Orleans Commodity Exchange. The first contract, according to Mr Thomas Webber, the recently appointed president, would be rough rice futures.

The exchange has already obtained permission from the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) to trade a milled long-grain rice contract, but the exchange is reluctant to open its doors until the rough rice contract is also approved. But trading could start next month.

One problem, however, is that a cash market does not exist. But Mr Webber and Mr James Stone, chairman of the CFTC, expect that the futures contract will lead to cash dealing. This is the reverse of the usual procedure, and another indication of the developing faith in futures markets.

Part of the *attraction* is that rice is the biggest crop not traded on an American commodities exchange. The southern states, particularly Louisiana, and California, are major rice growers.

Michael Prest
Commodities Editor

Unit Trust Prices—change on the week

FT Index change on week 493.2 +12.9 (2.7%)

Prev W'end Offer	Ch'ge on Week	Trust	Bid	Current Offer	Yield
[illegible]					

Stock Exchange Prices

Capitalization and week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Feb 9. Dealings End, Feb 27. § Contango Day, March 2. Settlement Day, March 9

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

BRITISH FUNDS

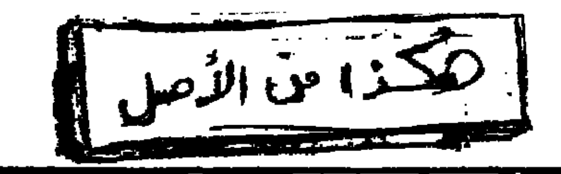
Stock outstanding £	Stock		Price last Friday	Ch'ge on week	Int only Yield	Gross Red Yield
SHORTS						
956m	Treas	9¼% 1981	99¹¹⁄₃₂	+¹⁄₃₂	9.790	13.240
900m	Exch	8¼% 1981	98⁷⁄₁₆	+¹⁄₁₆	8.381	13.413
800m	Exch	9½% 1981	98⁹⁄₁₆	..	9.639	12.882
600m	Exch	3% 1981	95⅝	•+¼	3.137	12.169
600m	Exch	12¾% 1981	100⅛	..	12.734	12.514
851m	Treas	8½% 1980-82	96⅝	+¹⁄₁₆	8.797	12.523
400m	Treas	3% 1982	94¾	+⅛	3.166	8.822
600m	Treas	14% 1982	101⅝	• ..	13.776	12.368
800m	Treas	8¼% 1982	94¾	+¹⁄₁₆	8.707	12.523
1600m	Exch	9¼% 1982	95¹⁄₁₆	• ..	9.732	12.768
800m	Exch	8¼% 1983	93⅜	+¹⁄₁₆	9.334	12.569
600m	Exch	3% 1983	88⅝	•+⅛	3.045	9.637
1550m	Treas.	12% 1983	98¼	• ..	12.214	13.004
800m	Treas	9½% 1983	93½	+⅛	9.960	12.780
800m	Exch	13½% 1983	100¹⁵⁄₁₆	+⅛	13.375	13.065
900m	Exch	10% 1983	92⅝	+⅛	10.787	13.091
500m	Fund	5½% 1982-84	85⅝	+⅛	6.424	11.433
1100m	Exch	11¼% 1984	95⁷⁄₁₆	•−¹⁄₁₆	11.788	13.138
1100m	Exch	14% 1984	102¼	−¹⁄₁₆	13.692	13.117
1000m	Exch	3% 1984	78¹³⁄₁₆	+¹⁄₁₆	3.806	10.714
1050m	Treas	12% 1984	96⅝	−⅛	12.419	13.190
1000m	Treas	15% 1985	106¼	•−¹⁄₁₆	14.117	12.953
600m	Treas	3% 1985	73½	+¼	4.081	10.951
MEDIUMS						
1300m	Exch	12¼% 1985	97¼	−⅛	12.612	13.062
1150m	Exch	11¼% 1986	94½	•−⅛	12.399	13.220
600m	Treas	8½% 1984-86	86½	..	9.929	12.224
500m	Exch	13¼% 1987	100⅜	..	13.292	13.330
559m	Fund	6½% 1985-87	79⅞	−⅛	8.341	11.585
1000m	Treas	12% 1987	96½	−⅛	12.903	13.616
500m	Treas	7¼% 1985-88	78½	..	9.932	12.591
2052m	Trans	3% 1978-88	64⅛	−⅛	4.708	10.096
600m	Treas	11½% 1990	89	•+¼	12.899	13.785
601m	Treas	5% 1986-89	66	−⅛	7.778	11.659
600m	Treas	13% 1990	97⅜	−⅛	13.479	13.703
600m	Treas	8¼% 1987-90	78	−⅛	10.777	12.580
800m	Treas	11¾% 1991	89	−⅛	13.385	14.076
400m	Fund	5¾% 1987-91	65¾	−⅛	9.038	12.066
800m	Exch	11% 1991	87	−⅛	13.169	14.011
600m	Treas	12¾% 1992	94⅛	−⅛	13.678	13.981
600m	Treas	10% 1992	79⅝	•−⅛	12.561	13.663
800m	Exch	12¼% 1992	89¾	•−¼	13.608	14.033
1000m	Exch	13½% 1992	94⅞	• ..	14.048	14.194
1100m	Treas	12½% 1993	92⅝	−¼	13.669	13.969
600m	Fund	6% 1993	60⅝	• ..	9.828	12.107
12500m	Treas	13¾% 1993	100¼	−¼	14.101	14.175
600m	Treas	14½% 1994	101⅝	−⅛	14.201	14.138
1000m	Exch	13½% 1994	100	−⅛	14.089	14.204
1000m	Exch	12½% 1994	90½	•−¼	13.785	14.071

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A — B

Capitalization £	Company	Price last Friday		Ch'ge on week	Gross div pence	Div yld %	P/E
27.5m	AAH	195		+12	12.1	6.2	6.8
3,915,000	AB Electronics	101		−2	10.7	10.6	..
45.3m	AGB Research	297		+10	6.6	2.5	26.1
1,560,000	AI Ind Prod	16		+1	..	..	..
53.4m	APV Hldgs	193		+3	15.7	8.1	4.6
14.3m	Aaronson Bros	54		•−3	6.0	11.1	15.7
736,000	Acrow	46		..	..e	..	..
15.9m	Do A	26		..	..e	..	..
34.2m	Adwest Group	168		+16	10.6	6.3	6.1
15.7m	Aeron't & Gen.	393		+45	2.5	0.6	30.0
1,026,000	Aero Needles	24		..	..e	..	..
2,077,000	Airfix Ind	8	f	..	..e	..	..
—	AKZO	325		+25	48.1	14.8	31.6
48.9m	Alcan Alum UK	107		+63	4.7b	4.4	..
6,240,000	Do 10½%	£78		+½	1050	13.5	..
1,339,000	Allen W. G.	36		..	4.4	12.3	2.9
49.8m	Allied Colloids	116		+2	3.5	3.0	17.7
4,262,000	Allied Plant	27½		..	2.5	8.9	3.3
14.4m	Amal Metal	230		+1	20.0	8.7	6.4
10.2m	Amal Power	75		+1	4.4	5.9	16.2
4,166,000	Amber Day	27		..	4.1	15.1	7.4
756,000	Amber Ind Hldgs	29		..	7.1	24.6	4.0
11.7m	Amstrad	126		+1	4.7	3.7	11.1
1,907,000	Anchor Chem	67		..	7.6	11.3	3.6
33.9m	Anderson Strath	71½		−1	5.7	8.0	6.2
10.5m	Anglia TV 'A'	82		+1	7.1	8.7	2.9
224.4m	Anglo Amer Ind	£8¼		+¼	64.1	7.8	4.7
6,286,000	Aquascutum 'A'	37½		+4½	2.9	7.8	6.2
4,720,000	Arenson Hldgs	47		−1	2.8	5.9	3.4
48.7m	Argyll Foods	116	r	..	1.7n	1.5	24.2
1,599,000	Arlen Elec	40		+4	4.3	10.7	15.2
4,217,000	Arlington Mtr	94		+4	12.9b	13.7	4.6
41.8m	Ass Biscuit	62		+3	6.3	10.2	5.5
7,516,000	Ass Book	206		−2	10.7	5.2	6.4
452.6m	Ass Brit Food	126		−2	5.0	4.0	7.4
27.1m	Ass Comm 'A'	50		+4	5.5	11.1	2.5
42.2m	Ass Engineer	43		+2½	4.3	10.0	3.7
9,666,000	Ass Fisheries	55		−6	1.4	2.6	14.5
34.2m	Ass Leisure	131		..	7.3	5.6	9.2
80.8m	Ass News	266		+13	14.9	5.6	7.5
4,565,000	Ass Paper	32		+3	2.9	8.9	7.0
1,030,000	Ass Tooling	58		..	5.5n	9.4	9.4
1,120,000	Atkins Bros	35		..	4.0	11.5	5.0
525,000	Audiotronic	4½		−½	..e	..	..
600,000	Do Pref	4		..	..	..	..
7,466,000	Ault & Wiborg	38		..	3.3	8.7	2.2
5,529,000	Aurora Hldgs	26		+7	8.8	33.8	2.7
1,017,000	Austin E.	24		−2	1.9	7.8	2.6





FOR SALE SOLD AUCTION UNDER OFFER TO LET LEASE TENDER RENT

Commercial & Industrial Property

Commercial property: the end of the slump in Europe

ish property developers estate agents took to ope with the same glee enthusiasm as our early nizers. At the beginning the last decade it was ight that if any property had an ounce of epreneurial skill he ld be doing deals in ope.

idustry folklore has it during the "goldrush" of the early 1970s most ning flights to Brussels Paris would be half full. developers and agents. were all trying to it from the new erty boom which was ping the major Euro centres; by this time erty values were idy spiralling in Britain the country gripped by everish and frenetic ling boom.

ilike the best fairy tales great British invasion of pe did not have a happy When the crash came lopers were caught with built offices and retail ects, or in some cases pleted buildings for h no tenants appeared. w escaped the collapse. lopers, pension funds, tutions and even estate ts all became caught in groundswell of rising tion and deepening omic gloom.

tween 1974 and 1978 pe became a developers eyard. Empty, half pleted, futuristic, soar office blocks littered the scape of Europe's als and major urban es. These monoliths l as shining examples of industry's over-enthusi cheap money, and times even greed, as Opec countries cut the nd beneath the industri d nation's feet and sent omies into disarray.

nce those days of deep ession order has risen nix-like from the chaos. ly buildings have been investments sold and built office blocks com d. Partly this has been to stronger economies ing in their wake nd for increased office mmodation and the by expanding com al and industrial com s to re-house in shining prestigious offices and houses. And of course russels, office take-up one hand in glove with ver expanding bureau of the European omic Community.

hough the British nue to be active in pe, lessons have been and despite the healing of many a burnt finger the developers' enthusiasm has been blunted by common sense and far more expensive money. Also the Europeans have *acquired* the property development expertise—mainly from the mistakes of the British—which they lacked a decade ago.

Estate agents today report a much healthier market throughout Europe in all sectors. Some areas, and some sectors, are obviously faring better than others. Even Brussels, which probably was the worst disaster area *for property* developers, has shown signs over the past year of a much improved market.

In the most recent study of Brussels' office market, agents Gerald Eve & Co comment that having reached a five year low in 1977-8 demand is beginning to improve. The market, says Gerald Eve, shows clear signs of hardening as existing empty space, estimated at 6-8 per cent of the total is taken up.

Demand is strong from the institutional sector, believes the agents, with the Belgian government having the largest appetite for office space in the capital. It already occupies something like 30 per cent of all offices in the city.

Other large space users in Brussels are, of course, the EEC and related bodies, but as the report notes these institutions often require purpose-built accommodation and do not have such a major impact on the general office market. The agents also comment that it is diffi*cult to reliably estimate de*mand for offices in Brussels. Figures published over the past few years have proved unreliable because it has never been made fully clear how much of demand re*ferred to is new. and how* much has resulted from moves caused by rationalization of companies already operating in Brussels.

Perhaps the confusion surrounding the Brussels office market was *underlined* earlier last year by conflicting views of two major international estate agents. On one hand Jones Lang Wootton suggest there could be severe shortages of modern office accommodation over the next year or so with a subsequent sharp rise in rents. But Knight Frank & Rutley point to the weak Belgian economy, high labour costs and the disenchantment of multi nationals with Brussels. As a result KFR do not regard a major resurgence of office rents as likely.

Agents agree that the great surplus of offices is *virtually a thing of the past.* In some cases agents report a shortage of modern large offices in the city which combined with a decline in the number of private developments on the go are helping to push up rents. Some space surveys suggest rents in the BFr 3,000 a sq metre to BFr 3,500 a sq metre—EPC's letting of the 11,750 sq metres Madou Centre was midway between these two levels.

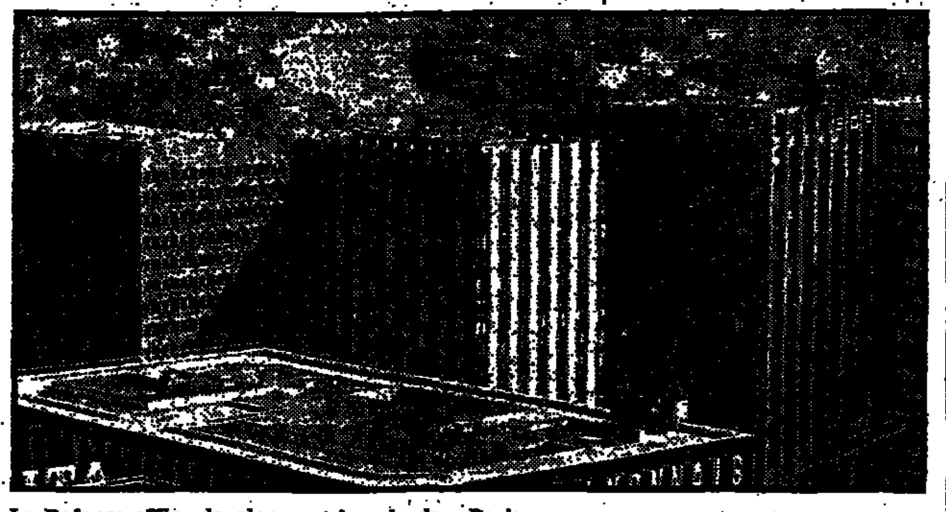
The cost of development has risen in recent years and Mr Michael Wagenaar of Bernard Thorpe & G. De Wandeleer estimates it is now in the region of BFr 45,000 a sq metre and on this basis he expects rents to settle at around BFr 4,000 a sq metre.

A point reinforced by Jones Lang Wootton who expect a steady rise in office rents rather than a dramatic take off. But until rents do surge then new developments in the private sector are unlikely because of depressed yields which earlier this year were standing at between 3¼-4 per cent.

Paris has never really suffered the tremendous oversupply problems experienced by Brussels and as a result it is presently reflecting a sharp decline in large blocks of available accommodation. Although surveys last year indicated around 225,000 sq metres of office space on the market in inner Paris there was not a single building containing more than 10,000 *sq metres* and only a handful offering 5,000 sq metres or more.

And the situation in the suburbs has not been very much better with 237,000 sq metres available in the *Western suburbs which* includes La Defense.

This is confirmed by a recent study by agents Richard Ellis who although noting the decline in available office space point out *that the supply is beginning* to stabilize. Rising costs and a shortage of new schemes has resulted in some spectacular deals made by large industrial groups moving out of the city centre. Rhone Poulenc, for example sold five office blocks to two banks for £55.5m. Covering 38,000 sq metres Rhone Poulenc are vacating the buildings and relocating to La Defense in the suburbs.



La Defense office development in suburban Paris.

The reasons for companies moving out and into the suburbs are clear when rents within inner Paris are around the Frs1,500 a sq *metre compared to around* Frs7,000 a sq metre in the new developments at La Defense.

Shortages of good modern accommodation have also led to falling yields with prime offices now commanding yields of close on six per cent although Ellis say this trend is largely based on renovation schemes than standing investments.

While large scale city centre development may be some way off for both Paris and Brussels, agents are predicting an upsurge in new schemes in Amsterdam. Like other major European commercial centres Amsterdam too attracted more than its fair share of British developers keen to jump on the booming bandwagon. Similarly the city was left a substantial amount of unlet office blocks which in more recent times have now found tenants.

Over the next four years Richard Ellis forecast that a *further 5m sq ft of new* office space is likely to be added to Amsterdam's stock. Although take-up in recent years has been averaging 1m sq ft annually last year witnessed a slow down in letting *with only 400,000 sq ft in the* first six months coming off the market. Lettings in the second half of the year were of a similar order.

If Ellis's forecast is correct then some agents are more *than a little worried by the* scale of new development. Most of the proposed schemes are speculative and clearly agents are concerned at seeing another over-supply situation hit the Amsterdam office market.

The scale of developments coming on stream over the next two or three years is emphasized by the vast Holendrecht Centre in the city's south-east outskirts. Covering about 880,000 sq ft and hailed as Holland's largest office development ever undertaken, it will cost a staggering £55m. The first *two phases comprising* 270,000 sq ft consisting of two tower blocks will be ready for occupation in April 1982.

Next door to the Hoelendrecht Centre work has started on another 300,000 sq ft block and completion *is expected to coincide with* the first part of the larger scheme.

But in the city centre large amounts of single occupier space is hard to find and it is thought impossible to find units of more than 20,000 sq ft on the market. As a result rents are higher in the centre, as much as 350 guilders for *small suites* down to 260-270 guilders for larger units.

In spite of the fairly firm market yields have not really budged in recent times with office yields around six per cent for prime rising to seven per cent for more secondary space.

Major German cities encountered the same glut of development encountered elsewhere. Take up too has been *slow* but most agents now report an equilibrium between supply and demand. Even the more substantial office blocks like MEPC's Eurohaus in Frankfurt has been more or less let and the investment market has gathered momentum over the last 18 months or so.

While spacious modern offices have been "de rigeur" this has not been the case in Hamburg. For many years the conservative business community has resisted moving into modern accommodation. According to *Christopher Moran* of Debenham Tewson & Chinnocks says this resistance is finally breaking down and companies are realizing the bene*fits of more modern accom*modation.

Led by the banking, insurance and professional sectors increased demand has resulted in an improvement in office take up. Some observers believe take up is now almost twice the average at 80,000-100,000 sq metres a year. This in turn has meant rents for modern offices have passed through the DM20 per sq metre a month level with rents for top quality space settling at between DM 25 and DM 27.50 per sq metre a month.

Lack of opportunities has meant few new schemes have got underway during the past year. Development sites, says Mr Moran, are becoming increasingly difficult to acquire which is often due to the work of the preservation lobby preventing the demolition of older buildings.

Clearly Europe is not the graveyard it once was for British developers and most centres now show an expanding market. But many agents are expressing a degree of cautious optimism about the *future. While opportunities* do exist for developers there is always the danger of producing an oversupply although most observers of the industry believe many of *the lessons of the past have* been well learnt.

The biggest difference between 1971 and 1981 is that the regular airline services between Heathrow and Europe are not bursting at the gunwales with developers, agents and investors. Interest is still there but the scramble to close on deals is not.

Baron Phillips

No sign of an office space glut in England

The office block, that enormous and much criticized twentieth century addition to the townscapes of Britain, has acquired the reputation once reserved for *the empty* vessels of the well-known proverb.

Because no one ever seems to occupy them they inspire a great deal of public noise about their usefulness. Also *they get in the way of more* pleasing architecture.

The truth is there is a shortage of office space, particularly in London, and this is expected to force up rents over the next five years.

Thankfully there are also indications that their often hideous bulk and shape may become a thing of the past as architects begin to question whether their present form is more cost and space effective than a lower development which uses up all its sites and reverts to the old pattern of a central lightwell.

Chartered surveyor Richard Ellis forecasts that rents in the City of London could climb as high as £40-£45 per sq ft by 1985. This compares with about £25 per sq ft at the moment.

In its latest annual review of the City office accommodation market Ellis says that initially the market will move into "oversupply" especially in areas outside the prime banking and insurance locations.

But this is not regarded as serious because the surplus is accounted for by the level of development completions taking place this year.

New supply is expected to total around 3.5 million sq ft this year compared with about 3.7 million sq ft last year and 2.6 million sq ft in 1979.

Next year and in 1983 about 3 million sq ft of space is expected to come on the market but thereafter there is likely *to be a sharp de*cline in new accommodation.

Mr Christopher Rowe, a partner in Richard Ellis, told me: "There is, beneath all the figures, a dramatic shortage of space. A firm and *underlying demand is grow*ing and the shortfall will really start to emerge between 12 and 18 months from now. There is not even enough to meet the demand at the moment. There isn't *enough of the right space for* the demand, the right locations and the right standards.

"From planning application to completion takes up to five years, and the crucial factor in all the present *trends is time. After 1973-4* there was a void during which little development took place. From 1977 development started again and the results are beginning to come through. But there is nowhere near *enough* to satisfy the underlying demand."

He added: "People have been more cautious about lending money for development and, in terms of occu*pation, people have hesitated* to take more space, but now they are saying 'We should be doing something.'

"There is hesitancy still but I see signs of optimism with people thinking of *making decisions about* future requirements."

New office space to be completed this year will probably total more than 2 million sq ft although much of this is in peripheral City *locations, according to the* Ellis report.

Overall it is estimated that around 5.4 million sq ft will be completed by 1985 but most of the development will come on stream in the first *three years.*

The hesitancy of the recent past by organizations considering new space is of course due to the recession, and this has influenced the shortfall in building specu*lation. Last year 2.7 million* sq ft of space was let compared with 2.9 million sq ft in 1979, and Ellis predicts this will slip further to between 2.25 million sq ft and 2.5 million sq ft before *the expected boom.*

Already the City's financial sector is increasing its demand as its international business increases, and prime banking and insurance accommodation continue to *do well.*

Despite the state of the economy and the dull property market top City rentals have managed to grow faster than inflation, exceeding it by 3 per cent since the last *war, and it is on this basis* that Ellis makes its forecast of a dramatic rise in rents.

In the provinces the past 12 months have seen a further diminution in the over*supply of accommodation* but rental levels generally have not shown the substantial advances of the previous two years.

In its review of last year, chartered surveyors St *Quintin report a slackening of demand in the late sum*mer and autumn in provincial centres and further contraction is expected in the next few months as the effects of the economic *recession percolate to the* service industries which are, with the public sector, the largest office users in the country.

St Quintin reports: "On *the supply front we are now* beginning to see a number of new developments becoming available in those locations where rental growth in 1978 and 1979 made development viable once again. It is possible that with the increasing supply of accommodation in those areas at a time of falling demand, potential tenants may be faced with a wider choice of space over the next 12 months or so. This would have the effect not only of stemming rental growth but would also see non-prime buildings remaining empty."

There have been reports of lettings at over £10 per sq ft in centres such as Slough, Windsor, Maidenhead and Reading but only a few have related to substantial floor areas.

One trend is the sudden "acceptability" of office locations to the west and south of Reading, including Basingstoke, Newbury and Swindon. With excellent road and rail communications lettings of over £7 per sq ft have been achieved.

To the east of London—at Brentwood and Chelmsford in Essex—rental levels have begun to move up sharply to nearly £6 per sq ft.

In Birmingham, St Quintin reports, the dearth of prime office space has generally persisted, while in Bristol there has been a substantial amount of interest from developers.

In Edinburgh, with the exception of small self-contained renovated buildings in the best parts of the Newtown, demand has remained limited.

St Quintin says: "With the exception of centres in the South-east rents have generally shown only very slight growth and even as rents rise in the face of the supply shortage, they have not yet reached a level which makes speculative development viable. Accordingly, with demand contracting, planning authorities more responsible, and developers more cautious, it seems unlikely that a glut of new office space will appear in the near future."

Michael Horsnell

(continued on page 22)

Commercial property

Development of former railway depot

British Rail Property Board have appointed Townson Developments (Lancashire) to develop a former railway locomotive depot and sidings at Heaton Mersey, near Stockport. The scheme will provide some 211,000 sq ft of industrial and warehousing accommodation on 12.8 acres. Plans provide for a broad range of unit sizes and the finished scheme is expected to have an investment value of £6.25m.

Construction will be carried out by William Townson and Sons of Bolton, and architects are the Ellis Williams Partnership of Manchester. Work on the first phase of 125,000 sq ft is due to start in the middle of July and it should be completed within four years. Outline planning permission has been received from Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council and an application for detailed consent is to be made soon.

The site will have direct access to the M63 now under construction, which will use part of the sidings area immediately adjacent to the site. Over recent years Townson Developments (Lancashire) and its associate company have worked with British Rail in the north west in the development of sites at Eccles and Bolton.

Good progress in the letting of units on the Bow Industrial Park, Carpenters Road, London E15, is reported by Shepherds and Bernard Thorpe and Partners, the joint agents acting for the Post Office Staff Superannuation Fund. They say that 80 per cent of the first phase is now let, with phase two adding another 80,000 sq ft now under construction.

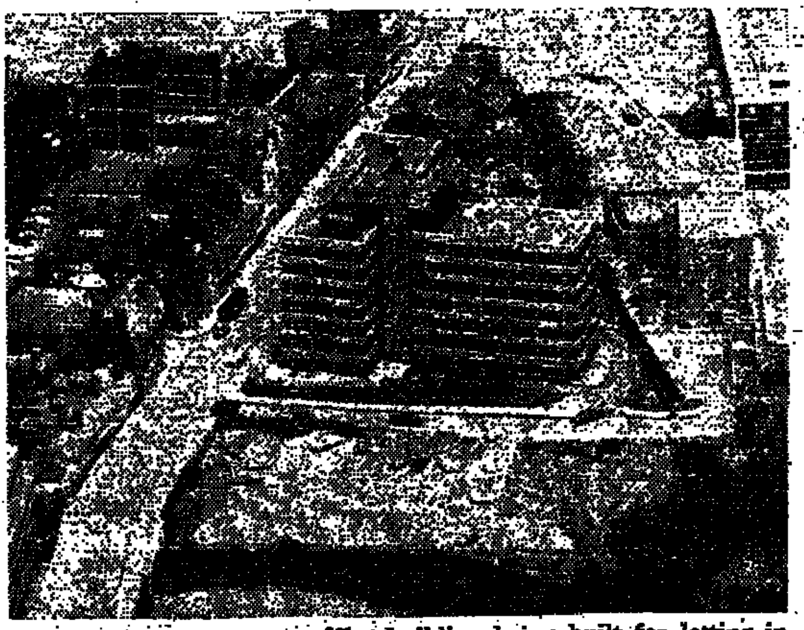
The agents claim that at £2.65 a sq ft in the first phase, the units are over £1 a sq ft cheaper than the same accommodation in west London. Because of the success so far the POSS Fund have decided to bring forward the third phase, to provide seven further factory or warehouse units which should be ready for occupation by June or July. Ultimately, the whole scheme will provide more than 200,000 sq ft. Rents will be around £2.85 a sq ft.

Commercial Union Properties have forward funded the development of a unit of some 36,000 sq ft of industrial or warehouse space at Park Wood Industrial Estate, Maidstone, Kent, with Boxmend. The investment, costing about £850,000, has been acquired for one of the C.U. Group's long term funds.

The unit has 31,250 sq ft of industrial space, plus 4,770 sq ft of offices and has been pre-let to Kiwi Products (UK), as their headquarters. Sited in the main industrial area of Maidstone, it has good links to the M20. Prall Champion and Prall acted for Boxmend.

Work has started on an £8m office scheme in Kings Road, Reading, designed by Eric G. V. Hives and Sons for the Thorn Pension Fund. The seven-storey building which will provide over 90,000 sq ft of space is due for completion in the late summer of 1982. It will have parking for 150 cars at ground and basement levels.

The architects are to incorporate part of the Reading Riverside Walkway into the scheme and plan to improve and landscape this part of what is to be an important local amenity. Construction is by Wiltshiers and project managers are Town and City Properties. Joint letting agents are Campbell Gordon of Reading, and Hillier Parker May and Rowden.



Architects model of new office building being built for letting in Reading by Thorn pension fund.

The hefty rent of £24 a sq ft is being asked for the 28,000 sq ft office building at 48 Grosvenor Street, Mayfair, London. It is claimed to be the highest rent ever asked for a building of this size in the exclusive area. The scheme, carried out by Corob Holdings, has entailed a reconstruction of the building to unusually high standard behind the retained period front.

Its many features include a staff gymnasium, a sauna, showers and a sun terrace. The property is adjacent to the Japanese embassy and within a hundred yards of both the Canadian and American embassies. Joint letting agents are Bernard Thorpe and Partners and Smith Melzack and Company.

In a large transatlantic transaction the American Property Trust has paid $47m (£20.5m) for an office building at 208 South La Salle Street, Chicago. The Trust was set up in 1974 to enable United Kingdom pension funds to invest in commercial real estate in the United States and elsewhere overseas. The assets of the trust are over £150m.

Richard Ellis acted for the APT in acquiring the 21-storey building, which provides some 970,000 sq ft of offices, and are retained as property advisors to APT. Tenants include Barclays Bank, US Steel and a number of leading law firms and insurance companies. Vendors were the South La Salle Corporation, a real estate company.

Appleton Laboratory, the Science Research Council's 100,000 sq ft laboratory and office complex at Ditton Park, Slough, has been acquired by Imperial Continental Gas Association for use by the Calor Group, its subsidiary. The price paid has not been disclosed, but the property was in the market at £10m.

The buyers were advised by Fifield Glyn of London, and Giddy and Giddy of Slough. Chestertons acted for the Science Research Council, who are transferring activities to Chilton, Oxfordshire. Possession will be phased over 18 months, with completion due in June next year.

A new association of estate agents has been formed to assist companies which are relocating to find homes for their staffs. Known as Mann Countrywide, the scheme originated with Mann and Company, based on Woking, Surrey, who control over 70 offices, but the organization includes members from other separate agencies with over 215 branches in the United Kingdom.

In addition, links have been established with two of the leading such organizations in the United States and Canada. Information may be obtained from the Co-ordinator, Mann Countrywide Ltd, 53, High Street, Esher, Surrey. Tel Esher 67050.

Gerald Ely

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(continued on page 21)

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UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREWS GENERAL COUNCIL
ELECTION OF CHANCELLOR
Notice is hereby given that a vacancy exists in the office of Chancellor of the University caused by the death on 28th November, 1980, of Brigadier the Lord Ballantrae, ...

LEGAL NOTICES

SILVER JEWELLERS Limited. Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 293 of THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co. situated at 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA on Tuesday the 24th day of February 1981 at 12 o'clock midday, for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295. ...

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PERSONAL CHOICE



arry Norman presents another of his popular Film 81 rogrammes tonight at 10.55 on BBC 1

Over the past years local health authorities have been urging mothers to have their babies in hospital, stressing the availability of expertise and necessary equipment should any complications arise. The exhortations seem to have paid off. Today only 3 per cent of mothers have their babies at home and there is a fall in the infant mortality rate. But this has meant a lessening of the role traditionally played by midwives—they are steadily becoming redundant. Horizon (BBC 2, 9.45 pm) asks the question "does it really matter?" To illustrate the options now available the programme follows three women (from Islington in North London) through their late pregnancy and sees three different methods of delivery of their babies. One has her child at home, another in a large district hospital and one in a small cottage hospital attended by the community midwives who have looked after her through pregnancy. With the birth rate showing an upward trend and hospitals becoming more stretched because of understaffing, the role of the midwife seems to have been, if you will pardon the expression, reborn. This is good news for Sister Black who is the subject of Radio 4's occasional series on people who love their work—she is a midwife (Just the Job, 4.35 pm).

There is a wonderful array of musical talent on Won't Change Places (BBC 2, 9.00 pm) led by Marti Webb. She has for a long time been appearing in various successful West End musicals but is now at last receiving the solo recognition she deserves thanks to her collaboration with Andrew Lloyd Webber. He is with her tonight at the Watermill Theatre, Newbury, and they perform excerpts from their past successes, Tell Me on a Sunday and Evita as well as his latest musical, Cats, which will be seen in the West End in the spring. Also appearing are Julian Lloyd Webber, top saxophonist Barbara Thompson and Paul Nicholas, the cellist who is also one of the stars of Cats.

Piccadilly Radio, Manchester's commercial station, has made an interesting six part series dealing with differing aspects of teenagers sexual development and behaviour (My Generation 10.00 pm). Tonight's programme is the second in the series and it concentrates on the physical changes of adolescence and the anxieties and emotions that are caused by the changes. It is hoped that at least seven other local stations will eventually run the series so make a note to look out for it in your area.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: †STEREO; *BLACK AND WHITE; (r) REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Dear

TELEVISION

BBC 1

7.05 am Open University: Beginning M101; 7.30 Technology—Facts are not known. Closedown at 7.55.
9.00 For Schools, Colleges: What is a career? 9.30 Chemical Technology; 9.52 Travel reading; 10.15 Music, 10.38 Geometry; 11.00 Merry-go-Round; 11.25 You and Me (not Schools); 11.40 The popularity of the spy thriller. Closedown at 12.05 pm.
12.45 News.
1.00 Pebble Mill at One. Donny MacLeod reflects on his recent travels throughout Japan; 1.45 Mister Men (r).
2.01 For Schools, Colleges: Words and Pictures; 2.18 Europe from the Air; 2.40 The work of the Manpower Services Youth Opportunities Programme.
3.00 When the Bough Breaks with John Thaw. A series of ten programmes for parents who think they ill treat their children (r); **3.15 Songs of Praise.** Gerry Monte introduces the programme from the Trinity Methodist and United Reformed Church, Abingdon (shown last night at 6.40); 3.55 **Play School** (shown earlier on BBC 2); **4.20 Touche Turtle.** Cartoon (r); 4.15 Jackanory. Julie Dawn Cole reads the first part of The Bears Upstairs by Dorothy Haas; 4.40 Beangoose! (r); 5.05 John Craven's Newsround. World news for young people. 5.10 Blue Peter. Peter Duncan visits Newcastle General Hospital to see the new non-nasal intensive care units and in the studio will be the most obedient dog and bitch from last weeks Cruft's Show.
5.40 News read by Richard Baker; **5.55 Nationwide.** News from the regions-plus Watchdog, the weekly look at complaints of bureaucratic abuse presented by Hugh Scully.
6.55 Triangle. Episode thirteen of the drama serial centred on a ferry that roams the North Sea; **7.20 Star Trek.** Captain Kirk has to contend with a high-pitched hum that pervades the starship Enterprise.
8.10 Panorama: Who's Afraid of Rupert Murdoch? A look at the business methods of the new owner of Times Newspapers. David Dimbleby interviews Mr Murdoch live in the studio about his methods and motives.
9.00 News read by Kenneth Kendall.
9.25 Film: The Man Who Died Twice (1970) starring Stuart Whitman and Brigette Fossey. In order to escape his past a forger fakes his own death but when he talks a girl out of suicide complications arise and he is forced to take up his painting again.
10.55 Film 81 with Barry Norman. Little Lord Fauntleroy starring Alec Guinness and Ricky Schroder and the biopic of the boxer Jake La Motta, Raging Bull are reviewed this week. On location we meet Albert Finney and Martin Sheen who are making Loophole, the story of a remarkable robbery.
11.25 In The Post. The sixth in a series of ten programmes for philatelists. Tonight's programme is entitled Thematics.
11.50 News headlines.

Regions

BBC 1 VARIATIONS: Cymru/Wales: 9.52 am-10.12 I Ysgolion. 1.45 pm-2.01 Pili Pala. 5.55-6.20 Wales Today. 6.55-7.20 Heddiw. 7.20-8.10 The Walls of Jericho (4). 11.50 News and weather. Scotland: 11.00 am-11.20 For Schools. 12.40 pm-12.45 The Scottish News. 5.55-6.20 Reporting Scotland. 11.25-11.55 Cearcall. 11.55-12.20 am 16 Up. 12.20 News and weather. Northern Ireland: 3.53 pm-3.55 Northern Ireland News. 5.55-6.20 Scene Around Six. 11.50 News and weather. England: 5.55pm-6.20 Regional Magazines. 11.55 Close.

BBC 2

6.40 am Open University: Miss Julie; 7.30 Introduction to Chemistry and Geology. Closedown at 7.55.
10.00 Focus. A series on higher education written and presented by Roger McGough (r); **10.25 A Taste of Work.** The first in a series of five programmes on schemes for the young unemployed (r); 10.50 Interval.
11.00 Play School presented by Lucie Skeaping and Ben Bazell. The story today is Grandfather by Jeannie Baker; *11.25 Write Away.* This morning Barry Took helps us fill in car insurance forms (shown yesterday at 10.35 am). Closedown at 11.40.
2.15 pm Let's Go. A repeat of the programme shown yesterday in which Brian Rix gives advice to the mentally handicapped on elementary road safety; *2.30* **Multi-Racial Britain.** Part six of a ten-part series on improving race relations in Britain (r); 3.00 **Embroidery.** Jan Beaney explains Decoration with Stitches (r); **3.30 Wainwrights' Law.** The rights and responsibilities of the citizen in a dramatized form (r). Closedown at 3.55.
4.15 Work and Leisure Lectures. Lord Vaizey gives the first of five lectures on a theme for the 80s (r). Closedown at 4.40.
5.15 Open University: Models in Chemistry.
5.40 Charlie Chaplin*. In his 1917 film "The Cure" Charlie tries to cure himself of alcoholism; **6.10 Michael Strogoff.** The final episode in the serial based on the book by Jules Verne set in the time of Tsarist Russia (r).
7.05 Rock Goes to College. Pete Drummond introduces the Scots singer B. A. Robertson from Preston Polytechnic.
7.45 News including a sub-titled synopsis for the hard-of-hearing. *7.55 Fawlty Towers.* A public health inspector calls at the Torquay hotel and Basil panics; **8.30 Grace Kennedy.** The energetic singer has as her guest this evening Derek Griffiths.
9.00 Won't Change Places A not-to be missed concert by sensational singer Marti Webb with Andrew Lloyd Webber, his brother Julian and Paul Nicholas. The venue is the Watermill Theatre near Newbury (see Personal Choice).
9.45 Horizon: Who will deliver your baby? An investigation into the disappearance of midwives. Martin Jarvis follows the late pregnancy and delivery of three births and asks is the caring going out of childbirth? (see Personal Choice).
10.35 Anthony Goldstone plays Schubert's Impromptu in A flat.
10.45 Newsnight. The latest news from around the world plus in-depth analysis of the stories that made today's headlines.
11.30 Tele-Journal. The news from a French speaking European country introduced by Marianne Lawrence. The programme ends at 12.00.

THAMES

9.30 am For Schools: Understanding shapes; *9.47 Life with a family* in Verona; 10.05 The purpose of journeys; 10.23 Simple Arithmetic; 10.40 French conversation; 11.05 For the deaf and hard-of-hearing child; 11.22 Picture Box; 11.39 Life with a Victorian doctor and his family.
12.00 Button Moon. The urban spaceman goes on another adventure; 12.10 Rainbow. Educational puppets; 12.30 Your Chance. Jeremy Payne with advice on running your own business.
1.00 News read by Peter Sissons; **1.20 Thames News** with Robin Houston.
1.30 Crown Court. A journalist is accused of setting fire to her lover's house (r). **2.00 The Riordans.** Adventure of an Irish farmer and his family.
2.30 Film: Last of the Secret Agents (1966) with Marty Allen and Nancy Sinatra. Two piano removal men become embroiled with a spy set-up called THEM.
4.15 Dr Snuggles. Another cartoon adventure featuring the old inventor. *4.20* **The Sooty Show** with Matthew Corbett. **4.45 Heavens Above.** The first in a new series explaining modern astronomy and space exploration. **5.15 Money-go-round.** Joan Shenton and Tony Bastable take a look at the Sunday trading laws; the real cost of a funeral; and find out if it is really easy to have your electricity cut off by accident.
5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News with Andrew Gardner and Rita Carter.
6.35 Crossroads. Another episode in the saga of a sordid motel.
7.00 Wish You Were Here . . . ? Judith Chalmers with information on packaged holidays to the Loire for motorists and campers. Chris Kelly visits Weston-super-Mare and the surrounding area.
7.30 Coronation Street. Deirdre is double-dealing tonight and the new manager of the Rover's Return needs to have the wisdom of Solomon.
8.00 West End Tales starring Robin Nedwell. The first of a seven-part comedy series which looks at Soho life through the eyes of a petty crook. In this episode he and two of his accomplices have a day at the races.
8.30 World in Action: In for a Penny. A look at what can happen when a council declares that it will defy the Government's directive to cut expenditure.
9.00 **The Sweeney.** Another episode in the Flying Squad's fight against crime (r).
10.00 News.
10.30 Film: The Other Side of Fear (1979) with Karen Black and Don Murray. A Vice Squad officer begins to doubt whether or not she has chosen the right vocation when her private life takes a turn for the bad. But a special murder investigation rekindles her fervour for the force.
12.20 Close with the political editor of *The Sunday Times*, Hugo Young who reads extracts from famous writers on their religious beliefs.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Week.
6.30 Today.
7.00, 8.00 News.
7.30, 8.30 Headlines.
8.35 The Week on 4.
8.45 BBC Sound Archives.
9.00 News.
9.05 Start the Week.
10.00 News.
10.02 Money Box.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Story: The Girl in the Wood, by Graham Edwards.
11.00 News.
11.05 Somebody Stole My Tune.
11.50 Poetry Please!
12.00 News.
12.02 pm You and Yours.
12.27 Quote . . . Unquote.†
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Play: The Last Viking, by Donald Campbell.†
4.35 Just the Job.
4.45 The Towers of Trebizond (9).
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.30 Frank Muir Goes Into . . . Deceit.†
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 The News Quiz.†
7.50 Play: The Man Who Lived Among Eskimos, by Frederick Bradnum.†
9.20 Letters from Monte Cassino.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 Science Now.
11.00 The Harpole Report (6).
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15 am-12.23 Shipping forecast.
VHF
10.02 am Schools: Music Interlude; Noticeboard (1); *Time to Move.*
10.30 Listen With Mother.
10.45-12.00 Schools: Da *sind* wir wieder! (5); Singing Together (13); Springboard; Drama Workshop.
2.00 pm-3.00 Schools: Exploration Earth; Listening and Reading II; Speak; Movement and Drama (2).
11.00 Study on 4: World Powers in the Twentieth Century (17).
11.30-12.00 Open University: Philosophical Approaches to Gerantology; Music Interlude.

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Records: Mozart, Handel, Svendsen, Delius, Reger. (8.00-8.05 News.) Glinka, Bach, Fauré, Prokofiev, Glinka.†
9.00 News.
9.05 Week's Composers: John Dunstable and Lionel Power.†
9.35 Sacher Conducts: Stravinsky, Honegger and Bartok.†
10.30 German Baroque Cantatas and Sonatas.†
11.20 Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra: Enesco, Elgar, Shostakovich.†
1.00 pm News.
1.05 John Bingham (piano): Beethoven and Chopin.†
2.00 Concert: Weber, Horovitz, Adrian Cruft, Johann Strauss, Alan Langford and Nicolai.†
3.00 London Sinfonietta Voices: *Britten, Duruflé, Peter Maxwell* Davies, Holst, Frank Martin, Warlock.†
4.05 New Records: Schumann, Chopin.†
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
7.00 The Price of Victory (2) Bevin at Victoria Station (see Personal Choice).
8.00 Mahler's Third Symphony live from Festival Hall.
9.50 Folie à deux, story for two voices by David Mercer.
10.30 Jazz in Britain.†
11.00 News.
11.05-11.15 Florilegium Musicum, Paris.†
VHF: 11.15 pm-12 15 am Open University: Studying the Arts: Values and Beliefs; Revolution 1789-1870.

Radio 2

5.00 am Bob Kilbey.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00 David Hamilton.† 2.00 pm Ed Stewart.† 4.00 Much More Music.† 6.00 John Dunn.† 8.00 Folk on 2.† 9.00 Humphrey Lyttelton.† 10.00 Movie Quiz. 10.30 Star Sound. 11.00 Brian Matthew. 2.00 am-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.00 Andy Peebles. 12.30 pm Newsbeat. 12.45 Paul Burnett. 2.30 Dave Lee *Travis. 4.30 Steve Wright. 7.00* Stayin' Alive. 8.00 Richard Skinner. 10.00 John Peel.† 12.00 Close.
VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 10.00 pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz, 463m) at the following times GMT:
6.00 am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-four Hours. 7.45 Short Story. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Dancers of the Renaissance. 8.30 Thirty-minute Theatre. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 Notes from an Observer. 9.20 Theatre Call. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 DJ Roundtable. 10.15 Take One. 10.30 Emlyn 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 News Waves. 11.30 Fiesta. 12.00 Radio Newsreel 12.15 pm Animal, Vegetable or Mineral. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News 1.09 Twenty-four Hours. 1.30 Book Programme. 2.00 A Touch of Genius. 2.30 Rumpole. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Sarah and Company. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Book Choice. 5.15 Europa. 5.30 A House for Mr Biswas. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-four Hours. 9.15 Europa. 9.30 A Touch of Genius. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary 11.15 Short Story. 11.30 DJ Roundtable. 12.00 World News. 12.09 am News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 Radio Theatre. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Europa. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 Sports International. 3.00 World News 3.09 News about Britain 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Fiesta. 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only; med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF, Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service: med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.

REGIONAL TV

Grampian

As Thames except: Starts 9.25 am-9.30 First Thing. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Best Sellers: Flesh and Blood. 3.45-4.15 Money-Go-Round. 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00 North Tonight. 6.30-7.00 Country Focus. 10.30 Palace Presents. 11.30 Living and Growing. 12.00 Amazing Years of Cinema. 12.30 am-12.35 News.

HTV

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Money-Go-Round. 2.30-4.15 Film: Two Flags West* (Joseph Cotten). 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00-7.00 Report West. 10.28 News. 10.35-12.20 am Film Age of Consent (James Mason, Helen Mirren).
HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV West except: 10.05 am-10.20 About Wales. 11.05-11.20 Am Gymru. 12.00-12.10 pm Ffalabalam. 4.15-4.20 A Balmy Knight. 4.45-5.15 Sêr. 6.00-6.25 Y Dydd. 6.25-7.00 Report Wales. 8.30-9.00 Yr Wythnos.

Southern

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty 2.25 Film: Sabotage* (Sylvia Sydney). 3.45-4.15 Money-Go-Round. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00-7.00 Day by Day. 10.35 Theatre in Camera. 11.40 Police Surgeon. 12.20 am Weather followed by Go Down Moses.

Anglia

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Money-Go-Round. 2.30-4.15 Film: Great St Trinian's Train Robbery (Dora Bryan, Frankie Howerd). 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.30-7.00 Movie Memories. 10.30 Lou Grant. 11.30 It's a Musical World. 12.30 am Reflection.

Ulster

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.30 Film: Who Comedy Was King (Charlie Chaplin, Buster Keaton, Laurel and Hardy). 3.45 Money-Go-Round. 4.13-4.15 News. 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00-7.00 Good Evening Ulster. 10.30 By This I Live. 11.00 Soap. 11.30-11.40 *Bedtime.*

Granada

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.00 Money-Go-Round. 2.30-4.15 Film: Bliss of Mrs Blossom (Richard Attenborough). *5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00-7.00 Granada* Reports. 10.30-12.45 am Film: There Was a Crooked Man (Kirk Douglas).

Border

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.30 Film. Only With Married Men (David Birney, Michele Lee). 3.45-4.15 Money-Go-Round. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.15 Wine and Dine. 6.30-7.00 Mr and Mrs. 10.30 Snooker. 11.15 Our Little Town. 11.45-11.48 News.

ATV

As Thames except 1.20 pm-1.30 News 2.00 Best Sellers: Rebels. 3.45-4.15 Money-Go-Round. 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00-7.00 ATV Today. 10.30 *Left, Right and Centre.* 11.10 News 11.15 *Lifeline. 12.15 am-12.30 Something Different.*

Yorkshire

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Money-Go-Round. 2.30-4.15 Film: Bunny O'Hare (Bette Davis; Ernest Borgnine). 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00 Calendar. 6.35-7.00 Happy Days. 10.30-12.15 am Film: Portrait of a Stripper (Lesley Ann Warren).

Scottish

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: Knock on any Door* (Humphrey Bogart, John Derek). 3.45-4.15 Money-Go-Round. 5.15-5.45 *Mr and Mrs.* 6.00 Scotland Today 6.40 Crimedesk. 7.00-7.30 Now You See It. 10.30 Golf. 11.30 Living and Growing for Adults. 12.00 Late Call. 12.05 *am-12.35* Three's Company.

Tyne Tees

As Thames except: Starts 9.20 am *Good Word. 9.25-9.30 News. 1.20 pm-*1.30 News. Lookaround. 2.00 Money-Go-Round. 2.30-4.15 Film: Sea and Sand (Richard Attenborough, John Gregson). 5.15-5.45 Here's Boomer. 6.00-7.00 Northern Life. 10.30 News. 10.32 Northern Report. 11.00 SWAT. 12.00-12.05 am Never the Same Again.

Westward

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: Brothers O'Toole (John Astin, Steve Carlson). 3.42 Gus Honeybun's Birthdays. 3.45-4.15 Money-Go-Round. 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00-7.00 Westward Diary. 10.32 News. 10.36 Drama Workshop. 11.20 Electric Theatre Show. 11.50-11.55 Faith for Life.

Channel

As Thames except: 12.00-12.30 pm Closedown. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00 Film Brothers O'Toole (John Astin). 3.45-4.15 Money-Go-Round. 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.15 Cartoon. 6.30-7.00 Amazing Years of Cinema. 10.28 News. 10.36 Drama Workshop 11.20-11.50 Electric Theatre Show.

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RY—OMEGA SHOW GUIDE
IDENTAL DEATH OF AN ARCHIST, EDUCATING RITA, TOMFOOLERY ET FOR ONE, PAL JOEY
DIT CARD SALES 379 6565 8 a.m. all major cards. No fees. GROUP bkgs. 836 3962. DENT STANDBY £2.90.

RY S 836 3878 cc bkgs 379 65. Grp bkgs 379 6061. 836 2. Eves 8. Thurs mat 3.00. ls from £2.90. Sat 5 & 8.15. SIAN PHILLIPS "A KNOCK-T" S. Times S. Exp. NIS LAWSON Most Promising w Actor DRAMA AWARD 1980
PAL JOEY
SOMETHING TO BE SEEN AT COSTS" (F.T.). RODGERS & 'S GREATEST HIT (D. Mail). TERINGLY SLEAZY. SHEER TRICAL RAZZLE DAZZLE Std.

ASSADORS S cc 836 1171 s 8. Tue 3. Sat 5.30 & 8.30.
J. B. PRIESTLEY'S Mystery Play **DANGEROUS CORNER**
One of the cleverest plays ever tten" Daily Telegraph.

YCH S 836 6404 cc 379 6233 -6. Sats 10-4). info 836 5332 YAL SHAKESPEARE COMNY. All week eves 7.30, Wed. mats 2.00.
PASSION PLAY
by Peter Nichols
hear magic" Times. "Superve acting" S. Tel. "The ghter came thick and fast . . . exciting start to the theatrical r" S. Times. With O'Casey's rd winning JUNO AND THE YCOCK (next perf 23 Feb) Nikolai Erdman's THE SUI-E (next perf 26 Feb). Presbooking 2-2025. Group Sales 6061. RSC also at The rehouse/Piccadilly.

CHURCHILL cc 460 6677/5838 Bromley, Kent. From Wed 18 Feb. 7.45. Sat 4.30 & 8. Thurs 2.30.
PETER DAVISON SANDRA DICKINSON in Neil Simon's comedy **BAREFOOT IN THE PARK.**

COMEDY THEATRE S cc 01-930 2578. From 2 March until 23 May *only. Eves 7.15 (March 4 at 6.30).* Mat. Thurs. 2.00 (note early start). The National Theatre smash-hit production (from The Cottesloe) of **ARTHUR MILLER'S THE CRUCIBLE** Directed by Bill Bryden

COTTESLOE N.T's small auditorium: Tkts normally £3.70 (day tkts from 10 am £2.20, student standby 45 mins before start £1.50) *Mons-Sats* 7.45 THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN by Tom Taylor.

CRITERION S 930 3216 cc 379 6565. Grp Bkgs 836 3962 or 379 6061. Eves. 8. Sat. 6 & 8.45. Robin Ray, Jonathan Adams Martin Connor, Tricia George in A SATIRICAL REVUE **TOMFOOLERY** Words, music & lyrics of Tom Lehrer "HILARIOUS, BARBED AND BUBBLY" Sunday Times "OUTRAGEOUS" Guardian

DRURY LANE, Theatre Royal. Tel. 01-836 8108.
THE BEST LITTLE WHORE HOUSE IN TEXAS
Opens Feb. 26 at 7.00. Reduced price previews Feb. 21, 23, 24, 25 at 8.00.

DUKE OF YORKS S 836 5122. Credit Cards 379 6565/836 4837/839 4682 Group Bookings 836 3962, 379 6061 Evgs 8.00. Sats 5.0 & 8.30. Stalls & Circle from £2.90.
FRANCES DE LA TOUR ACTRESS OF THE YEAR Swet awards 80 *BEST ACTRESS* New Standard Drama Awards 80 BEST PERFORMANCE BY AN ACTRESS 1980 DRAMA AWARDS and DAVID DE KEYSER BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR Drama Awards of the Year 1980 in TOM KEMPINSKI'S
DUET FOR ONE
BEST NEW PLAY Drama Awards 1980 "THE AMAZING NEW PLAY" Daily Telegraph "NO ONE INTERESTED IN THE THEATRE CAN AFFORD NOT TO SEE THIS PRODUCTION" F.T.

GARRICK S cc 01-836 4601 Tonight 7.0. Subs. evenings 8.0. Until 18 March. **MAX WALL.**

GLOBE S cc 437 1592, 439 6770. FOR 12 WEEKS ONLY SOLD OUT UNTIL APRIL 1 **ROWAN ATKINSON IN REVUE** Previews Tomor & Wed at 8.00. Opens Thur 7.0. Subs 8.0. Sat. 6.0 & 8.45. BOOK NOW!

GREENWICH THEATRE S cc 858 7755. Evgs. 8.0 (sharp). Mat. Sats. 2.30. DONALD SINDEN in *PRESENT LAUGHTER* by Noel Coward. Ends here 7th March. Open 12th March CONSTANCE CUMMINGS in THE GOLDEN AGE, new play by A. R. Gurney.

HAMPSTEAD THEATRE 722 9301 Last week Jean-Claude Grumberg's **THE WORKSHOP** Evgs 8 pm. Sat mat 4.30 Previews from 26 Feb. *Mike Leigh's new play* **GOOSE-PIMPLES**

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL cc 01-930 9832. Only 9 more weeks. Mon-Sat eves. at 8.0 MAGGIE SMITH "a great tragic comic actress in full bloom" Financial Times in **VIRGINIA** "a beautifully crafted, highly *emotional experience*" D. Tel. A new play by Edna O'Brien from the lives and writings of Virginia and Leonard Woolf. Directed by Robin Phillips. "RADIATES PERFECTION" S. Exp. Latecomers may not be admitted.

KINGS HEAD 226 1916. No perf. Ton't. Subs Evgs Dnr 7.0. Show 8.0. DAFFODILS—The Barrow *Poets.*

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH cc 01-741 2311. Eves. 7.30. Thur Mat. 2.30. Sats. 4.30 & 8.15 HOBSON'S CHOICE. Cast includes Arthur Lowe. Julia McKenzie. Ronald Pickup. "It's still a great choice . . . this thoroughly enjoyable comedy" N. Std. ". . . beautifully observed" Sun. Tele.

LYRIC S cc 01-437 3686. evgs. 8.0 Mat Wed 3.0. Sat 5.30. 8.30. DINSDALE LANDEN NICOLA PAGETT in ALAN AYCKBOURN'S **TAKING STEPS** "A VERY FUNNY EVENING. ENJOYED MYSELF ENORMOUSLY" Evening News "THE BEST FARCE IN TOWN"—Punch.

LYTTELTON (N.T.'s proscenium stage): Ton't, Tomor. 7.45 THE BROWNING VERSION/HARLEQUINADE double-bill by Rattigan. (Wed., Thur., Fri., Sat. & Feb. 23 LAST PERFS) WATCH ON THE RHINE by Lillian Hellman.

NATIONAL THEATRE S cc 928 2252. FOR REPERTOIRE SEE SEPARATE ENTRIES UNDER OLIVIER/LYTTELTON / COTTESLOE. Car park. Restaurant 928 2033. Credit card bkgs. 928 5933. TOURS OF THE BUILDING daily (incl. backstage) £1 50. Info. 633 0880.

New London Theatre cc Drury Lane, London, W.C.2. 01-405 0072. *Opens April 30. prevs from April 22*
CATS
A MUSICAL BY ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER BASED ON OLD POSSUM'S BOOK OF PRACTICAL CATS BY T. S. ELIOT. Presented by Cameron Mackintosh and The Really Useful Company Ltd. Cast will include JUDI DENCH, PAUL NICHOLAS, WAYNE SLEEP, Roland Alexander, Sarah Brightman, John Chester, Geraldine Gardner, Sharon Lee Hill, Finola Hughes, Bonnie Langford, Anita Pashley, Myra Sands, Les Saxon, Jeff Shankley, Sue Jane Tanner John Thornton, Donald Waugh, Ken Wells Lighting Design by David Hersey. Sound by Abe Jacob. Musical Director Chris Walker. Designed by John Napier. Associate Director and Choreographer Gillian Lynne. Directed by Trevor Nunn. *Additional* Cats Box Office—The Ticket Centre (by Wyndham's Theatre), St Martin's Court Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.2. ADVANCE BOOKING NOW OPEN!

OLD VIC 928 7616 cc 261 1821 "S" Red price prev. Tomor 7.30. Opens Wed. at 7.00. Subs. Eves. at 7.30. Wed. mats from Feb 25 at 3.00. Winston Ntshona & John Kani in WAITING FOR GODOT.

OLIVIER (N.T.'s open stage) Ton't, Tomor. 7.30 (low price Prevs.) A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY by Ivan Turgenev, trans. by Isiah Berlin.

PALACE. S cc 01-437 6834 "OH WHAT A BEAUTIFUL EVENING!" Daily Mail. Rodger's & Hammerstein's **OKLAHOMA!** "A MAGICAL MUSICAL EXPERIENCE" S. Times. Evenings 7.30. Mats. Wed. Sat. 3.00. For group bookings 01-379 6061. Better selection of seats available Mon.-Thur.

PALLADIUM. 01-437 7373. Evgs 7.30. Mats Tues. Wed. Thur & Sat. at 2.45. JIM DAVIDSON, MOLLIE SUGDEN, WINDSOR DAVIES, MELVYN HAYES, CLIVE DUNN, LIONEL BLAIR in **DICK WHITTINGTON** "An evening of glitter . . . I can't remember a better Pantomime at the Palladium" J. Tinker D. Mail. Book now. Box Office and all agents. Credit cards accepted. Group sales box office 379 6061.
FORTHCOMING ATTRACTION THE LIBERACE SHOW '81. Starring "MR SHOWMANSHIP" **LIBERACE** with supporting company OPENS APRIL 28th for 2 weeks only. BOX OFFICE NOW OPEN

PICCADILLY S 437 4506 cc 379 6565. Group Bkgs 836 3962/379 6061. Mon.-Fri. 8. Mat. Wed. 3 Sat. 6 & 8.40. Stalls from £2.50
ROYAL SHAKESPEARE CO. in Willy Russell's new comedy **EDUCATING RITA** COMEDY OF THE YEAR SWET AWARD 1980 JULIE WALTERS MOST PROMISING ACTRESS DRAMA CRITICS AWARD 1980 "SPLENDID THEATRE EVENING QUITE ASTOUNDING"—Time Out. "A MARVELLOUS PLAY, HILARIOUS. IT SENT ME OUT MOVED, EXCITED & EXHILARATED" S. Tms. RSC also at Aldwych/Warehouse.

PALLADIUM 01-437 7373. Opens June 11 (previews May 29). **MICHAEL CRAWFORD** In the Broadway musical **BARNUM** Postal booking now open.

PHOENIX c.c. 01-836 2294/5. Credit Card Bookings 01-836 8611. **THAT'S SHOWBIZ!** The Sensational Variety Spectacular. TWICE DAILY at 6.00 & 8.30. Prices: £2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5 50.

PRINCE EDWARD. S-cc Box Off. 437 6877. cc Hotline 439 8499. Grp. sales 379 6061. Eves 8.0 Mat. Thur. (Economy price) & Sat. 3.0. **EVITA** by Tim Rice & Andrew Lloyd Webber. Dir. by Harold Prince.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE 930 8681. Credit Card bookings 930 0846. **PAUL DANIELS in IT'S MAGIC** "TRIUMPH" Fin. Times. "A WINNER" Variety. "PURE MAGIC" Sun. Mirror. Mon.-Thurs. 8.0 Fri. & Sat. 6 & 8.45. Easter perfs.: Good Friday as normal. EXTRA MATS. 20th & 21st APRIL AT 3.0.

QUEENS S cc 01-734 1166 01-439 3849 01-439 4031. PENELOPE KEITH Peter JEFFREY Barbara FERRIS **MOVING** A new play by Stanley Price Directed by Robert Chetwyn Evenings 8.0. Mat. Wed. 3.0. Sat. 5.0 & 8.15 Grp sales 379 6061 "STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART A FUNNY AND MOVING STORY OF SELLING A HOUSE" Daily Mail.

RAYMOND REVUEBAR cc 734 1593. At 7, 9, 11 p.m. Open Suns. Paul Raymond presents THE FESTIVAL OF EROTICA. New Acts! New Girls! New Thrills! 23rd sensational year! Fully air conditioned.

RIVERSIDE STUDIOS: 748 3354. Tues. to Sun. 7.30. JOINT STOCK in Say Your Prayers. New musical play by Nick Darke. "Admirable story telling intelligent comedy" Times.

ROUND HOUSE 267 2564 ROYAL EXCHANGE THEATRE COMPANY THE DUCHESS OF MALFI with HELEN MIRREN & BOB HOSKINS 1 April—9 May HAVE YOU ANYTHING TO DECLARE? 13 May—6 June THE MISANTHROPE with TOM COURTENAY 1 July—1 August Season Ticket available

ROUND HOUSE. 267 2564. Scarborough Theatre in the Round, in SUBURBAN STRAINS, a musical play by ALAN AYCKBOURN composed by PAUL TODD. Evgs. 8. Mats. Thurs. & Sats. 2.30. Until March 14. "A witty, ingenious Musical play" Gdn. "Mr Ayckbourn at his familiar best" The Times. Tonight Two seats for the price of one

ROYAL COURT S cc 730 1745. **TOUCHED** By Stephen Lowe. Evgs. 8. Mon. all seats £2. "Beautifully written . . . performances superb" Gdn. Must end Feb 21.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE UPSTAIRS 730 2554. FOUR IN A MILLION devised & Dir. by Les Blair. Evgs. 7.30. "Very funny, exceptionally enjoyable" S. Tms.

SAVOY THEATRE 01-836 8888. JOHN ALDERTON PAULINE COLLINS "PLAY OFF EACH OTHER BEAUTIFULLY, TOUCHING, FUNNY AND VERY MUCH ALIVE." Gdn. in Charles Dyer's comedy **RATTLE OF A SIMPLE MAN** "COULD HAVE BEEN SCRIPTED FOR THEM." Times. "A THEATRICAL GEM." The People. Mon-Fri 8.0. Sat 5.45 & 8.45 Reduced Group Bookings 839 3092. Credit Card bookings. Only [illegible] 9.30 a.m.-4.30 p.m.) Last 2 weeks

SHAW 01-388 1394. Evgs. 7.30. Mat. Thur. 2.30. LAST 2 WEEKS **GOTCHA and KILLING TIME** by BARRIE KEEFE Youth Price all seats £1.50

ST. MARTIN'S. cc 836 1443. Evgs. 8. Tue. 2.45. Sats 5 & 8. AGATHA CHRISTIE'S **THE MOUSETRAP** 29th YEAR

STRAND cc 01-836 2660. 01-836 4143. Evs. 8.0. Thurs. 3.0 Sats. 5.30 & 8.30. **NO SEX PLEASE WE'RE BRITISH** Directed by Allan Davis Group sales box office 379 6061. Mons-Sats. 8pm.

TRICYCLE THEATRE 269 Kilburn High Rd., NW6. 328 8626. Crucible Theatre's Production of BLACK BALL GAME by Don Webb. "It's brilliant" Gdn. "Very funny satire" Tms. Evgs. 8 pm. Ends Sat.

SHAFTESBURY, cc Shaftesbury Ave., W.C.2. Tel. Box Office 01-836 6596 or 01-836 4255. Credit Card booking only 01-839 7516 01-839 4682 01-839 4855 (9.30-6.00. Sats. 9.30-4.30) Group bookings only 01-839 3092 TOM CONTI & GEMMA CRAVEN **THEY'RE PLAYING OUR SONG** "This show is a real stunner. Two of the most engaging performances in London." D. Mail. Prices: Stalls & Royal Circle £8.00, £6.50, £5.00. Circle £3.50 (£1.00 seats at Box Office) (OAP's £4.00 Wed. Mats. best seats. Student Standby £4.00). Mon.-Fri. Evgs. 8.0. Mats. Wed. 3.0. Sats. 5.0 & 8.30.

VICTORIA PALACE cc 01-828 4735/6. 01-834 1317. Evgs. 7.30. Wednesday & Saturday 2.45. Group Sales 01-379 6061. **ANNIE** "UNBEATABLE FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT" Observer.

VAUDEVILLE S CC 01-836 9988. Twice daily 2.45 & 7.45. Tim Rice & Andrew Lloyd-Webber's SMASH HIT MUSICAL **JOSEPH** AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOUR DREAMCOAT GRP SALES 379 6061. "A DREAM OF A SHOW" D Ex "SIMPLY WONDERFUL" BBC EXTRA MATS DAILY AT 2.45.

VAUDEVILLE S cc 836 9988 OPENING MARCH 17 AT 7.0 DONALD SINDEN in **PRESENT LAUGHTER** by NOEL COWARD "TERRIFIC" S. Times. Red price prevs from March 11

WAREHOUSE Donmar Theatre, Earlham Street, Covent Garden. Box Office 836 6808. Ton't, Tomor., Wed. 7.30 THE IRISH PLAY by Ron Hutchinson. "Hilarious . . . sheer theatrical vitality" Gdn. *All seats £3.50. Students £2.00 in advance from* Aldwych Box Office.

WESTMINSTER S CC 01-834 0283 From March 3 Matinees only. Monday-Friday, 2.15, Sats 3.0 **THE NAMESAKE**

WINDMILL THEATRE cc 01-437 6312. Continuous perfs nightly from 6.30 including Sundays. PAUL RAYMOND presents RIP OFF. Hotter than ever for 1981. The erotic experience of the modern era. 5th Great Year.

WYNDHAM'S. S 836 3028. cc 379 6565. Red. price. Grs 836 3962. Mon-Fri 8.00. Sat 6 & 8.40. **ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST** "Exactly the shot in the arm that the West End needed" S Times. "One of the funniest shows London has seen in a very long time" Punch. "Hilarious" D Tel.

YOUNG VIC 928 6363. Eves. 7.30 Wed. Thur., Fri. RICHARD II. Sat. ROSENCRANTZ.

TALK OF THE TOWN. 01-734 5051 Air conditioning. Credit cards. LONDON'S GREAT NIGHT OUT From 8.00. Dining & Dancing **BRUCE FORSYTH** preceded at 9.30 by SUPER REVUE BUBBLY DANCING TILL 1 A.M.

CINEMAS

ACADEMY 1. 437 2981. 5th month Joseph Losey's film of Mozart's DON GIOVANNI (A) perfs. 1.00 (not Sun.), 4.10, 7.40.
ACADEMY 2. 437 5129. Andrei Tarkovsky's haunting new film STALKER (A). Progs. 1.50 (not Sun.), 4.50, 8.00.
ACADEMY 3. 437 8819. Cocteau's ORPHEE (A) and Renoir's PARTIE DE CAMPAGNE (A) Progs 5.45, 8.15. Sats/Suns also 3.15.
CAMDEN PLAZA, Camden Town 485 2443 (opp Tube) ISABELLE HUPPERT in Maurice Pialat's LOULOU (X) 2.35, 4.40, 6.45, 9.00.
CLASSIC 1 CHELSEA, King's Road. 352 5096. Isabelle Huppert in *Pialat's LOULOU (X) progs* 3.30, 5.30, 8.30. Last perf bookable.
COLUMBIA, Shaftesbury Ave (734 5414). A John Cassavetes Film GLORIA (AA). Cont. progs. Dly 1.30 (not Sun) 3.35, 6.00, 8.20.
CURZON, Curzon St., W.1. 499 3737 BURT LANCASTER, SUSAN SARANDON in LOUIS MALLE'S ATLANTIC CITY (AA). Film at 2.0 (not Sun), 4.05, 6.20, 8.40.
DOMINION, Tott. Court Rd. (580 9562). PROM NIGHT (X) and LOVE AT FIRST BITE (AA). Cont. Progs., 1.30, 3.20.
EMPIRE, Leicester Square. 437 1234. Seats bookable for last evening perfs. Mon.-Fri. and all perfs.: Sat. and Sun. (not late night shows) at the box office (11 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat.) or by post. No telephone bookings. THE FORMULA (AA) Sep. progs. daily 12.30, 3.00, 5.45, 8.30. Now RITZ, Leicester Square. WILLIE & PHIL (X) Sep. progs. daily 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30.
GATE CINEMA, Noll. Hill. 221 0220/727 5750. STARDUST MEMORIES (AA) 1.00, 3.35, 4.15, 6.00, 7.45, 9.30. LAST 3 DAYS. Starts Thurs: MARTIN SCORSESE'S RAGING BULL. BAWDY TALES (X) & ARABIAN NIGHTS (X) 11.15 p.m.
GATE TWO CINEMA, 837 8402/1177. Russ. Sq. Tube. WUTHERING HEIGHTS (U) 1.00, 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00. BAWDY TALES (X) & ARABIAN NIGHTS (X) 11.00 pm. LIC'D BAR.
GATE THREE CINEMA, 267 1201/485 2446. Camden Twn. Tb. MIZOGUCHI'S CLASSIC. THE STORY OF THE LAST CHRYSANTHEMUMS (A) 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30. LIC'D BAR.
GATE MAYFAIR 493 2031 MAYFAIR HOTEL, Stratton St. Green Pk. Tb. WUTHERING HEIGHTS (U). 5.30, 7.20, 9.16.
LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE (930 5252). Jack Lemmon in TRIBUTE (AA). Sep. Progs. Dly. (Inc. Sun.). Drs. Open 2.10, 5.10, 8.10. Seats bookable w'ends. Last Eve. prog.
MINEMA 45 Knightsbridge 235 4225/6. Andrey Tarkovsky's "MIRROR" (U) (Russian dialogue—English subtitles). Daily: 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00. Late Night Show Fri & Sat 11.00 pm. Must end 25th Feb.
ODEON HAYMARKET (930 2738/2771). ALIEN (X) IS BACK! in 70mm and Stereo sound. Sep. progs. 1.45, 4.60, 8.00.
ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE (930 6111) Jane Fonda, Lily Tomlin, Dolly Parton NINE TO FIVE (AA). Sep. Progs. Drs. Open 1.15, 4.20, 7.30.
ODEON MARBLE ARCH, W2 (723 2011/2). THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK (U). Sep. Progs. Drs. Open Dly. 2.30, 6.45.
ODEON ST. MARTIN'S LANE, THE NINTH CONFIGURATION (X). For info 240 0071. Box Office 836 0691. Sep. Progs. Dly. 1.35 (not Sun.) 4.35, 8.10.
PRINCE CHARLES.—Leic. Sq. 437 8181. British Premier Exclusive Presentation CALIGULA (X) Sep. perfs Dly (inc Sun.) 2.15, 5.30, 8.45. Late show Fri & Sat 11.55 Seat bkble Lic'd bar.
PLAZA 1, 2, 3, 4. Off Piccadilly Circus, 437 1234. Advance booking facilities same as Empire, Leicester Square.
1. MORE AMERICAN GRAFFITI (AA). Sep. progs. daily 1.00, 3.50, 6.00, 8.30.
2. AIRPLANE (A). Sep. progs. daily 1.00 (not Suns.), 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00.
3. MONTY PYTHON'S LIFE OF BRIAN (AA). Sep. progs. daily 1.00 (not Suns.). 3.30, 6.00, 8.35.
4. MY BODYGUARD (A). Sep. progs. daily. 1.00 (not Suns.), 3.30, 6.00, 8.30.
*No smoking area.
*No smoking.
SCREEN ON THE HILL. 435 3366. Woody Allen. STARDUST MEMORIES (AA). 3.20, 5.15, 7.10, 9.15. Ring 435 3787 after 6 p.m. for phone bookings.

ART GALLERIES

AGNEW GALLERY, 43 Old Bond St., W1. 629 6176. 108th ANNUAL WATERCOLOUR EXHIBITION. Until 20 Feb. Mon-Fri 9.30-5.30: Thurs until 7.
AGNEW GALLERY, 43 Old Bond St. W.1. 629 6176. Peter Brook —Yorkshire Landscapes until 27 *Feb. Thurs. until 7 p.m.*
ANTHONY d'OFFAY, 9 & 23 Dering St. W.1. British Art 1900-1980 Carl Andre. 629 1578.
BRITISH LIBRARY (in Brit. Museum). George Eliot until 26 April. Tudor Map Making until 31 Dec. Wkdys. 10-5, Suns. 2.30-6. Adm. free.
BROWSE & DARBY, 19 Cork St., 734 7984. Keith Grant.
CHRISTOPHER WOOD GALLERY, 15, Motcomb Street, London, SW1. 01-235 9141/2. SIR GEORGE CLAUSEN, R.A., (1852-1944) Drawings and Watercolours. 17th February-6th March. Weekdays 9.30-5.30 (Sats. by appointment).
HAYWARD GALLERY (Arts Council), South Bank, London SE1. EDWARD HOPPER and WILLIAM JOHNSTONE. Till March 29. Mon-Thurs. 10-8, Fri and Sat. 10-6. Adm £1.50. All day Mon. 6-8 Tues-Thurs: 75p.
JAPANESE ARTS 17-28 Feb. Screens, Paintings, Prints and Drawings. Covent Garden Gallery Ltd. 20 Russell St., W.C.2. 01-836 1139.
LEFEVRE GALLERY: 30 Bruton St., W.1. 01-493 1572/3. Twentieth Century Works on View. Mon-Fri. 10-5.
LEGER GALLERY, 13 Old Bond St. THOMAS ROWLANDSON — 63 Original Watercolours. Mon-Fri. 9.30-5.30 until 27th Feb.
MARLBOROUGH, 6 Albemarle St., W1. BILL BRANDT: NUDES (1945-1980), Mon-Fri 10-5.30. Sat 10-12.30.
REDFERN GALLERY ADRIAN HEATH, New Paintings 1978-80 January 28-February 25. 20 Cork Street, London, W1. Mon-Fri. 10-5.30, Sats 10-12.30.
ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS PICCADILLY, W.1.
1. A New Spirit in Painting until 18th March. Adm. £2. Concessionary Rate £1.00.
2. Honore Daumier 1808-1879 until 15th March. Adm. £1.50. Concessionary Rate £1.
3. Painting from nature until 15th March. Adm. £1. Concessionary Rate 50p.
All exhibitions open daily 10-6. Concessionary Rate applies — O.A.P.'s, students, groups over 10 and until 1.45 p.m. Suns.
TATE GALLERY.—Millbank, SW1. JASPER JOHNS WORKING PROOFS: Lithographs and Etchings. Until 22 March. Adm. 60p. Wkdys. 10-6. Suns. 2-6. Recorded information 01-821 7128.
THACKERAY GALLERY, 18 Thackeray St. Kensington Sq. W8. 937 5883. MONICA EPSTEIN—Tapestries, Watercolours and Etchings. Until Feb 27.
VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM, S. Ken. *DRAWING: TECHNIQUE & PURPOSE.* Until 26 April. Wkdys. 10-5.30. Suns. 2.30-5.30. Closed Fridays.

EXHIBITIONS

THE 17th ST JAMES'S ANTIQUES FAIR, the Piccadilly Hotel, Piccadilly, London, W.1. Open today, 2.30-8, then 11-8 dly until Thursday. Closes 6 last day.

EVENTS

WEMBLEY ARENA cc 01-902 1234 HOLIDAY ON ICE WITH ROBIN COUSINS *No Perf. Today.* £2.20 to £5.20. Children half price. Car park. Must end Sun. Feb. 22.

Classified Guide

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"... IF you wish, you can keep the commandments, to behave faithfully is within your power." —Ecclesiasticus 15: 15 (J.B.)

BIRTHS

BROOK.—On 13th February to Julie and Richard — twin daughters (Sally and Penny).

CODRINGTON.—On February 14th, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Philomena and Edward—a daughter (Jessica).

CUTHBERT-BROWN.—On February 9, at Harpenden Memorial hospital to Caroline (nee Parsonson) and John—a son.

RIDDELL.—On February 12th, to Millie and Richard—a daughter (Anna Claire).

BIRTHDAYS

GORDON C.C.D.C. F.E. love Margaret.

RICHARD FURZE.—Happy 18th! I.O.U. a present from Anna.

MARRIAGES

TARRANT : BROWN.—On February 12 at Wantage, Oxon, Graham, son of Mr and Mrs E. L. Tarrant, Bromley, Kent, and Penny, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. Brown, Lechlade, Glos.

DEATHS

AITCHISON.—Suddenly on Friday, 13th February, Dr Alastair Gordon (Bobs), of 1 Walton Place, Knightsbridge, and Barwell Court, Chessington, Surrey. Cremation Randalls Park, Leatherhead, Friday, 20th February, 1981, at 2.30 p.m. No flowers please; donations to British Heart Foundation.

BARKER, PATRICIA.—Of Benenden, Kent, on February 10th, peacefully at her daughter's home in South Africa, aged 97. Widow of Anthony Raine Barker, artist, and mother of Felix and Felicia.

BENNET.—At the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh on February 12th, 1981, The Honourable George William Bennet, beloved husband of Constance Clare, 2nd son of the late George Montagu Bennet, Earl of Tankerville. Service in Polwarth Kirk, Greenlaw, at 12 noon on Monday, February 16th, 1981. Cremation thereafter at Warriston Crematorium, Edinburgh.

BURDON.—On 12th February, Beryl, widow of George (Dickie), of Crudwell, dearly loved mother and grandmother. Funeral service at Crudwell Parish Church, on Thursday, 19th February, at 11 a.m., followed by private cremation. Family flowers only please. Donations in lieu if desired to church funds. Enquiries to R. & C. Matthews, Funeral Directors, Malmesbury. Tel. 3216.

BUTCHER.—On February 11th, after a short illness, Allan Ross, beloved husband of June Mary, and father of David and Andrew. Funeral service at Claverton Parish Church, Somerset, on Wednesday, February 18th, at 11 a.m. Family flowers only.

COTTON.—On 12th February, suddenly, Kay (nee Bowles) aged 79 years. Wife of the late C. K. Cotton, the dear sister of Eileen Andrews and Gladys Bowles, of 20 Milton Close, Henley-on-Thames. Funeral on Wednesday, February 18th. Service at Reading crematorium, at 2.00 p.m. Family flowers only please, but donations may be sent to the League of Friends, c/o Cyril H. Honeygrove, 114-116 Oxford Rd., Reading. 52016.

CROCKATT.—On 11th February, peacefully at home, "Koldale", Linton Lane, Wetherby, aged 83 years, Ella, beloved wife of the late Douglas Crockatt, dear mother of John and Allan, and a ...

FERN.—On February 13th, suddenly at home, Grace Gwendoline Margaret, aged 91 years. Beloved mother of Paul, John, Thomas and Christopher. Funeral service All Saints Church, Botley, February 19th, 2.30 p.m., followed by private cremation. Flowers: F. G. Hughes, Funeral Directors, Hedge End, Southampton.

RUDD.—On Feb. 14th, suddenly in hospital at Hastings, Sussex, George John, aged 76, husband of Mary, father of Peter. For funeral arrangements please phone Harmans, Hastings 436345.

SCOTT.—On Feb. 8th, 1981, at home, Carolyn, so greatly loved daughter of Mrs Peggy Scott and the late Edward Scott. Funeral service at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, on Tues., Feb 17th, at 3 p.m. No flowers please and no letters. Donations, if desired, to the Early Diagnosis of Cancer Fund, c/o Mr. R. A. D. Booth, Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, London, S.W.15.

TRINDER.—On February 12th, 1981, unexpectedly, Oliver Geoffrey, father of Peter and Graeme. Cremation at Easthampstead Crematorium, Wokingham, on Thursday, 19th February, at 2 p.m. Flowers to Cooperative Funeral Services, 21 Chalney Rd. East, Slough.

WHITE MARJORIE, of Bouncing Acre, Harpenden.—On February 13th, peacefully after a short illness. Widow of Harold, mother of Peter Jane and Penny, mother-in-law to Ian, Andrew and Felicity and grandmother to Genevieve, Barnaby, Meg, Martin, Kate, Gabriel, Susannah and Ambrose.

IN MEMORIAM

DODDS WINIFRED HELENA who died 16th March 1978.

MULLENS, WILLIAM LANGORD.—Died 16 February 1946 at Picket Twenty, Andover, lovingly remembered by Phyllis, Ruth and Hugh.

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PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 22

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BOX 2835 F THE TIMES

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,451

ACROSS

1 *Line sent back by your old follower, Goodfellow* (6).
4 A crafty hanger-on (8).
10 A pennyworth taken in consideration (7).
11 They take the floor as favourites at the Motor Show (7).
12 Savage, MFH ? (4-6).
13 Gotham his destination (4).
15 Bowlers all for these pleasure trips ? (7).
17 One direction out of turn that's not quite true (7).
19 Mrs Coster, game to the end (7).
21 Her habitat is subject to change (7).
23 Long for a 20 (4).
24 It may succour the low-spirited traveller (6, 4).
27 Made pure by being punished again (7).
28 Pat sees how to make money abroad (7).
29 He gets what he merits, apparently (8).
30 Property groups as first appearing (6).

DOWN

1 "Turnip" slogan (9).
2 Presumably not read at peace gatherings (4, 3).
3 Overbearing, going for a grand slam ? (4-6).
5 Hermetic type St Michael perhaps supplies (9).
6 He had a burning passion, not only for music ! (4).
7 Unhappy romance in Italy (7).
8 Points, for example, to literary work (5).
9 Where lessons are given in one's native tongue (4).
14 Their customers are not necessarily simple-minded (10).
16 Does a haberdasher keep stocking up with this ? (9).
18 Gin addicts, might one think ? They won't talk (9).
20 Tree brought home by Baby Bunting's daddy, say (7).
22 *Turn in Queer Street by one in bankruptcy ?* (7).
23 In a word, a light rod (5).
25 The skipper takes it in hand (4).
26 Cocaine makes Welsh don somewhat high (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,450

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